otics-AFO/KAFO ook-Up Tool to determine if a s a Service Authorization
MITATION CRITERIA AND POLICIES 2025

Ankle-Foot (AFO) /Knee-Ankle-Foot (KAFO) Orthosis

Indications and limitations of coverage and medical appropriateness:

Coverage is allowed if the following conditions are present:

- Contracture of the ankle with a reasonable expectation to correct the contracture, or
- Contracture is expected to interfere significantly with the member's functional abilities, and/or
- Used as a component of a therapy program that includes active stretching of the involved muscles and/or tendons, and/or
- Weakness or deformity of the foot and ankle that requires stabilization for medical reasons and has the potential to benefit functionally (i.e., foot drop), **and/or**
- KAFO is covered for ambulatory members for whom an AFO is covered, and when additional knee stability is required.

AFO AND KAFO, CUSTOM

Indications and limitations of coverage and medical appropriateness:

Coverage is allowed if the following conditions are present:

- Any one of the listed conditions for an Ankle-Foot/Knee Ankle Foot Orthosis, and
- The member could not be fitted with a prefabricated AFO, or
- Condition necessitating the orthosis is expected to be permanent or lasting more than 6 months, or
- Documented neurological, circulatory, or orthopedic status that requires a model to prevent tissue injury, or
- The member has a healing fracture that lacks normal anatomical integrity, or
- There is a need to control the knee, ankle, or foot in more than one plane.

Dakota Health & Human Services Be Legendary.	Orthotics-AFO/KAFO Reference the Look-Up Tool to determine if a code requires a Service Authorization
DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT MANUAL EFFECTIVE: March 2007	COVERAGE AND LIMITATION CRITERIA AND POLICIES REVISED: September 2025

Ankle-Foot (AFO) /Knee-Ankle-Foot (KAFO) Orthosis

- For a custom-fabricated orthosis, there **must** be documentation in the supplier's notes to support the medical necessity of that type of device rather than a prefabricated orthosis.
- When requesting code <u>L2999</u>, a narrative description justifying the medical necessity, along with a copy of the manufacturer's invoice, is required for manual pricing.
- Socks used in conjunction with an orthosis are covered. Limited to two every six months.

Replacement/Repair/Labor:

- The interface is covered if the AFO is allowed. Limited to a maximum of one per six months.
- A new service authorization is required if there is a change in the member's condition, irreparable accidental damage, or growth, along with supporting documentation.
- All labor involved in replacing an orthosis is included in the allowance for that component.
- If using a K0739, a required labor invoice that specifies units of labor for each HCPC requiring repair.

Documentation Requirements:

- The appropriate right and/or left modifier must be used when requesting an orthosis, additions, or repairs.
- RA/RB modifier is required for repair and/or replacement.
- A prescription from an ordering physician/practitioner.
- Physician/practitioner's documentation needs to address medical necessity.
- Physician/practitioner exam within 90 days of the service authorization start date.
- Supplemental documentation from other disciplines may be submitted as additional supporting documentation.

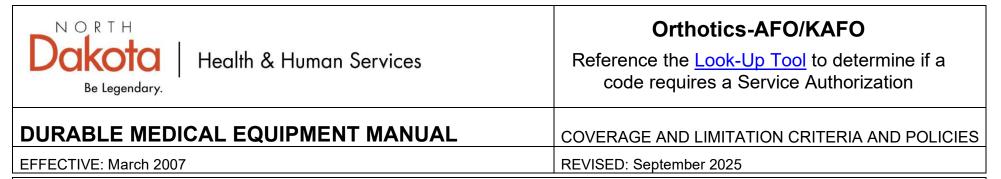
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• Documentation needs to clearly address the need for a CUSTOM orthotic, or it will be denied.

Non-Covered:

- Static AFO will be denied as not medically necessary if the contracture is fixed.
- A static AFO is <u>non-covered</u> when used solely for the prevention or treatment of pressure ulcers or the treatment of edema. No exceptions.



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Date Revised	Revisions	
January 2017	Reviewed and revised	
January 3, 2020	Reviewed. Added to Doc. Requirements bullet #2 RA, bullet #3 practitioner, bullet #4 practitioner, and bullet #5 Physician/practitioner exam within 90 days of the service authorization start date.	
November 23, 2022	Reviewed and reformatted. The header logo has been updated with a new logo.	
November 29, 2023	Reviewed and reformatted. No changes made.	
April 1, 2025	Reviewed and grammatical revision completed.	
September 11, 2025	Added the link to the Look-Up Tool to use to determine if code requires a service authorization.	