MEDICAL POLICY

Excellus

SUBJECT: DYNAMIC ADJUSTABLE BRACES	EFFECTIVE DATE: 04/25/02 REVISED DATE: 04/24/03, 04/22/04, 04/28/05, 02/23/06, 02/22/07, 02/28/08, 02/26/09, 02/25/10, 02/24/11, 02/27/12, ARCHIVED DATE: 02/28/13
POLICY NUMBER: 1.01.35 CATEGORY: Equipment/Supplies	EDITED DATE: 2/27/14 PAGE: 1 OF: 3

- ***If the member's subscriber contract excludes coverage for a specific service it is not covered under that contract. In such cases, medical policy criteria are not applied.***
- ***Medical policies apply to commercial and Medicaid products only when a contract benefit for the specific service exists.***
- ***Medical policies only apply to Medicare products when a contract benefit exists and where there are no National or Local Medicare coverage decisions for the specific service.***

POLICY STATEMENT:

I. Based upon our criteria and review of the peer-reviewed literature, dynamic adjustable braces have been proven to be medically effective and therefore, **medically appropriate** for the following indications:
   A. When the patient is not responding favorably to conventional methods of restoring joint motion (e.g., physical therapy, standard splinting, NSAIDs) following a sub-acute injury or postoperative period (at least 3 weeks after injury or surgery); or
   B. In the acute post-operative period for patients who have a prior documented history of motion stiffness/loss in a joint and are having additional surgical procedures done to improve motion in that joint.

II. Based upon our criteria and review of the peer-reviewed literature dynamic adjustable braces do not improve patient outcomes and are **not medically necessary** for the following indications:
   A. Use in the management of *chronic* contractures and joint stiffness due to joint trauma, fractures, burns, head and spinal cord injuries, rheumatoid arthritis, plantar fasciitis, multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, or cerebral palsy; or
   B. When conventional methods of treating stiff or contracted joints have not been attempted; or
   C. After 4 months of use.

POLICY GUIDELINES:

Coverage for Durable Medical Equipment is contract dependent unless mandated by federal or state mandates. Please refer to your Customer (Member/Provider) Service Department to determine contract coverage.

DESCRIPTION:

Dynamic adjustable extension units are spring-loaded, adjustable-tension controlled devices, which uses a three-point pressure system coupled with a continuous low intensity stretching effect for extension and flexion of the elbow, wrist, finger, ankle, and toes. Dynamic adjustable braces can be used for the treatment of joint stiffness from immobilization or limited range of motion arising from fractures, dislocations, tendon and ligament repairs, joint arthroplasties, total knee replacements, burns, adhesive capsulitis of the shoulder, rheumatoid arthritis, hemophilia, tendon releases, head trauma, spinal cord injuries, cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, and other traumatic and non-traumatic disorders. The objective of the dynamic adjustable brace is to restore functioning range of motion to a joint without compromising the stability and quality of the connective tissue and joint. Dynasplint™ is a brand of a dynamic adjustable brace.

CODES: Number Description

Eligibility for reimbursement is based upon the benefits set forth in the member's subscriber contract.

CODES MAY NOT BE COVERED UNDER ALL CIRCUMSTANCES. PLEASE READ THE POLICY AND GUIDELINES STATEMENTS CAREFULLY.

Codes may not be all inclusive as the AMA and CMS code updates may occur more frequently than policy updates.

CPT: No code(s)

HCPCS:	E1800	Dynamic adjustable elbow extension/flexion device, includes soft interface material
	E1801	Static progressive stretch elbow device, extension and/or flexion, with or without range of motion adjustment, includes all components and accessories
	E1802	Dynamic adjustable forearm pronation/supination device, includes soft interface material
	E1805	Dynamic adjustable wrist extension/flexion device, includes soft interface material
	E1806	Static progressive stretch wrist device, flexion and/or extension, with or without range of motion adjustment, includes all components and accessories
	E1810	Dynamic adjustable knee extension/flexion device, includes soft interface material
	E1811	Static progressive stretch knee device, flexion and/or extension, with or without range of motion adjustment, includes all components and accessories
	E1812	Dynamic knee, extension/flexion device with active resistance control
	E1815	Dynamic adjustable ankle extension/flexion device, includes soft interface material
	E1816	Static progressive stretch ankle device, flexion and/or extension, with or without range of motion adjustment, includes all components and accessories
	E1818	Static progressive stretch forearm pronation/supination device, with or without range of motion adjustment, includes all components and accessories
	E1820	Replacement soft interface material, dynamic adjustable extension/flexion device
	E1821	Replacement soft interface material/cuffs for bi-directional static progressive stretch device
	E1825	Dynamic adjustable finger extension/flexion device, includes soft interface material
	E1830	Dynamic adjustable toe extension/flexion device, includes soft interface material
	E1831	Static progressive stretch toe device, extension and/or flexion with or without range of motion adjustment, includes all components and accessories
	E1840	Dynamic adjustable shoulder flexion/abduction/rotation device, includes soft interface material
	E1841	Static progressive stretch shoulder device, flexion and/or extension, with or without range of motion adjustment, includes all components and accessories

ICD9: Numerous

ICD10: Numerous

REFERENCES:

Barañano CF, et al. Dynasplint for the management of trismus after treatment of upper aerodigestive tract cancer: a retrospective study. Ear Nose Throat J 2011 Dec; 90(12):584-90.

Berner SH, et al. Dynamic splinting in wrist extension following distal radius fractures. J Orthop Surg Res 2010 Aug 6;5:53-6.

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*Harvey L, et al. Does stretching induce lasting increases in joint ROM? A systematic review. Physiother Res Int 2002;7(1):1-13.

*Martin JE, et al. Mechanical treatment of plantar fasciitis. A prospective study. J Am Podiatr Med Assoc 2001 Feb;91(2):55-62.

*key article

KEY WORDS:

Dorsiflexion, Dynasplint™, EMPI Advance™, Joint extension device, LMB Proglide™, Ultraflex™.

CMS COVERAGE FOR MEDICARE PRODUCT MEMBERS

There is currently no National Coverage Determination (NCD) or Local Coverage Determination (LCD) for Dynamic Adjustable Braces.