



## Nebulizer Order and Documentation Requirements

Medicare, and other insurance providers who follow Medicare guidelines, requires that a physician, NP, CNS or PA has had a Face-to-Face (F2F) examination with the patient that documents that the patient was evaluated and/or treated for a condition that supports the need for the prescribed equipment. The date of the F2F exam may be no older than 6 months prior to the prescription date.

A Written Order Prior to Delivery (WOPD) is also required; the WOPD cannot be completed until after the F2F exam, and must be received by the supplier prior to dispensing the equipment. This order must contain:

- Patient's name
- Physician's name
- Date of the order and the start date, if start date is different from date of order
- Detailed description of the item(s)
- Drug to be used with nebulizer
- Length of need of the nebulizer therapy
- Ordering Practitioner's National Provider Identifier (NPI)
- Signature of ordering practitioner and signature date. Signature and date stamps are not allowed. Signatures must be legible and/or physician's name must also be printed.

### Patient Medical Records must contain documentation of the following:

The **Face-to-Face (F2F) examination**. This can be an inpatient admit H&P, discharge note or progress note, or an outpatient chart note. **If a PA, NP or CNS performs the F2F exam, a physician (MD or DO) must co-sign and date the F2F encounter.**

- ❖ A nebulizer and other related supplies **are only covered if the drug being dispensed through the equipment is covered for the diagnosis documented in the patient medical record.** Medicare will not cover drugs dispensed on a PRN basis. *Please note that Albuterol is not covered for a diagnosis of pneumonia.*

Drug	Covered Condition	ICD-9 Codes
Albuterol Arformoterol Budesonide Cromolyn Formoterol Ipratropium Levalbuterol Metaproterenol	Obstructive pulmonary disease	491.0 – 508.9
Dornase alpha	Cystic fibrosis	277.02
Tobramycin	Cystic fibrosis Bronchiectasis	277.02 011.50-011.56 494.0, 494.1 748.61
Pentamidine	HIV Pneumocystosis Complications of organ transplant	042 136.3 996.80-996.89
Acetylcysteine	Persistent thick or tenacious pulmonary secretions	480.0-508.9, 786.4

Thank you for making Rice Home Medical part of your healthcare team. Please call 320-235-8434 with any questions.