

Children's Hospital and Health System Children's Community Health Plan Policy and Procedure

This policy applies to the following entity(s):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> CHW – Milwaukee | <input type="checkbox"/> CHW - Fox Valley |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CHHS Foundation | <input type="checkbox"/> CHW - Surgicenter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CHW – Community Services Division | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Children's Community Health Plan |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children's Medical Group - Primary Care | <input type="checkbox"/> Children's Specialty Group |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children's Medical Group - Urgent Care | <input type="checkbox"/> CHHS Corporate Departments |

Medical Utilization Management Policy

SUBJECT: LUMBOSACRAL ORTHOTICS (BACK BRACES)

INCLUDED PRODUCT(S):

Medicaid

BadgerCare Plus

Care4Kids Program

Commercial

Together with CCHP

Marketplace

Together with CCHP

PURPOSE OR DESCRIPTION:

The purpose of this policy is to define criteria for the medically necessary use of lumbosacral orthotic devices. Note this policy does not apply to congenital or idiopathic scoliosis in a child or adolescent.

Appropriate uses of lumbosacral orthotics (LSO) braces (aka "back braces") include:

1. Stabilization of the spine after an acute spinal fracture
2. Post-operatively after spinal surgery.

The use of LSO's in the setting of chronic low back pain is not supported by the medical literature as evidence of meaningful clinical benefit is lacking. Thus LSO braces are not considered medically necessary in chronic low back pain.

REFERENCES

1. Lumbar supports for prevention and treatment of low back pain. van Duijvenbode IC, Jellema P, van Poppel MN, van Tulder MW. Cochrane Database Syst Rev. 2008 Apr 16; (2):CD001823. Epub 2008 Apr 16.
2. European guidelines for the management of chronic nonspecific low back pain. Airaksinen O, Brox JI, Cedraschi C, Hildebrandt J, Klüber-Moffett J, Kovacs F, Mannion AF, Reis S, Staal JB, Ursin H, Zanolli G; COST B13 Working Group on Guidelines for Chronic Low Back Pain. Eur Spine J. 2006 Mar;15 Suppl 2:S192-300