



UIC SPECIALIZED CARE FOR CHILDREN



Support of Power Mobility Bases/Wheelchairs

The following guidelines must be met, addressed in writing using the forms listed on back page and submitted to the University of Illinois at Chicago - Specialized Care for Children care coordinator to determine support for power mobility bases.

Guidelines

Factors that Must be Considered

The child's cognitive ability, coordination, depth perception, visual acuity and emotional maturity are important factors that must be considered before recommending a power mobility base/wheelchair.

Successful Trial Period

The child should have a successful trial period during the evaluation phase prior to purchase.

Environmental Barriers

The child should be able to use the power mobility base/wheelchair in all settings. Primary areas of concern include the child's home, school, medical facilities and transportation resources. The power mobility base/wheelchair should be able to be transported by the family's vehicle or mode of travel.

Purchase of Power and Manual Mobility Bases/Wheelchairs

Power mobility bases/wheelchairs are approved only when a manual mobility base/wheelchair cannot meet the medical treatment or medical rehabilitation needs of the child. Specialized Care for Children **cannot** purchase both a power and a manual mobility base/wheelchair or other mobility device when the mobility devices serve the same purpose in the child's medical treatment plan. Specialized Care for Children will not purchase a second mobility base/wheelchair if the current device meets the child's needs. All required information must be submitted to Specialized Care for Children before a power mobility base/wheelchair is ordered for final purchase.

Power Mobility Base/Wheelchair Evaluation Providers

Mobility base/wheelchair evaluations are usually performed by physical and/or occupational therapists. The child and family should be consulted about mobility base/wheelchair features and the child's needs during the evaluation.

Independent Mobility Base/Wheelchair Evaluations

If a mobility base/wheelchair evaluation has been independently obtained, or performed by a discipline other than an approved physical/occupational therapist, Specialized Care for Children cannot issue a prior approval to pay for the evaluation. The recommendations can be accepted if a Specialized Care for Children approved physician recommending the mobility base/wheelchair accepts the evaluation and specifications.

Power Mobility Base/Wheelchair Documentation Requirements

Physician Recommendation

The Specialized Care for Children approved managing physician must recommend the power mobility base/wheelchair and approve the specifications identified in the mobility base/wheelchair evaluation.

Power Mobility Base/Wheelchair Evaluation

An evaluation by a Specialized Care for Children approved therapist must include information about the child's ability to use the power mobility base/wheelchair recommended and the exact specifications need to include environmental considerations.

Completing Forms

The therapist and physician should provide the information indicated in the Power Mobility Evaluation and complete the Power Mobility Skills Checklist along with the Power Mobility Base/Wheelchair Parent Questionnaire when submitting a request for a power mobility base/wheelchair. Specialized Care for Children does not require providers to use the Power Mobility Evaluation Template as long as the same information is provided in another format signed by the physician and therapist/evaluator. These forms may be downloaded from the Specialized Care for Children website dsc.c.uic.edu, click on "For Providers" and scroll to "Forms." These forms cannot be submitted electronically. They must be signed by the persons indicated.

Training Verification - An Evaluation/Training for Equipment

The Family/Vendor/Therapist form must be completed upon final delivery of equipment only when the mobility base/wheelchair purchased is powered. This form can be obtained from the Specialized Care for Children care coordinator or downloaded from the Internet site "For Providers" link.

Limitations

Specialized Care for Children purchases equipment to meet the child's medical needs.

Used Equipment

Specialized Care for Children does not purchase used equipment.

Equipment Needed to Meet Developmental Needs

Specialized Care for Children will not support purchase of equipment based solely on meeting developmental needs. All equipment is purchased based upon documented medical necessity.

Equipment Needed for Educational Purposes

Specialized Care for Children will not support purchase of equipment recommended to meet educational needs or equipment used only at school.

