



HITTENBERGER
orthotics and prosthetics llc



Prefabricated Ankle Foot Orthosis

For a prefabricated ankle foot orthosis (AFO) to be covered by Medicare, all applicable Medicare statutory and regulatory requirements must be met. This includes of the following:

- Documentation of a face to face appointment with the patient within six months of the written order.
- Letters of medical necessity are not accepted, Medicare does not consider a letter part of the medical record.
- All notes need to contain the physician's printed name, signature, patient name and date.
- Stamped, illegible signatures or notes are not accepted.
- Addendums need to be added to the prescribing physician. .

The physician must document AND DISCUSS the following:

- Patient is ambulatory (or, if not currently ambulatory, the plan to progress the patient to ambulation); **and**
- Patient has a weakness or deformity of the foot and ankle; **and**
- Patient requires stabilization of the foot and ankle for medical reasons; **and**
- Patient has the potential to benefit functionally from the use of an AFO

Additional information is available at

<https://med.noridianmedicare.com/web/jddme/policies/documentation-checklists>

Thank you and please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

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