



## ***Prosthetic Documentation Requirements***

For a prosthesis 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 by the prescribing physician.

***The physician must document AND DISCUSS the following:***

- Patient is motivated to ambulate; **AND**
- Patient's activities prior to amputation; **AND**
- Patient's current medical condition; **AND**
- Status of residual limb; **AND**
- Nature and extent of functional limitations; **AND**
- List of required prosthetic components and why; **AND**
- Patient's realistic ambulation potential with prosthesis within a reasonable period of time.

***Clinical assessments of beneficiary rehabilitation potential must be based on the following classification levels:***

**Level 0 - K0** - Does not have the ability or potential to ambulate or transfer safely with or without assistance and a prosthesis does not enhance their quality of life or mobility.

**Level 1 – K1** – Household ambulator: Has the ability or potential to use a prosthesis for transfers/ambulation on level services at fixed cadence.

**Level 2 – K2** – Limited community ambulator: Has the ability or potential for ambulation and to traverse low level environmental barriers such as curbs, stairs or uneven surfaces.

**Level 3 – K3 – Unlimited community ambulator:** Has the ability or potential for ambulation at variable cadence, to traverse most environmental barriers, and may have vocational, therapeutic, or exercise activity that demands prosthetic utilization beyond simple locomotion.

**Level 4 – K4 – Child, active adult or athlete:** Has the ability or potential for prosthetic ambulation that exceeds basic ambulation skills, exhibiting high impact, stress, or energy levels.

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.

Hittenberger Orthotics and Prosthetics, LLC  
181 Lynch Creek Way, Suite 101, Petaluma, CA 94954  
1111 Sonoma Ave., Suite 320, Santa Rosa CA 95405  
1125 Sir Francis Drake Blvd, Kentfield, CA 94904  
T.707.765.1122, T.415.499.1122, F.707.765.4571  
[www.hittenberger.com](http://www.hittenberger.com)

