

October 3, 2011

SWEDE-O INC  
ATTN TOM TRAVER  
6459 ASH ST  
NORTH BRANCH MN 55056

**Re: Reconsideration of Coding Verification Decision**

**Xref #:** 15800618

**Product:** SWEDE-O STRAP LOK ANKLE BRACE

**Model number:** 22111, 22112, 22113, 22114, 22115, 22116, 22111R, 22112R, 22113R, 22114R, 22115R, 22116R, 02111, 02112, 02113, 02114, 02115, 02116, 02111R, 02112R, 02113R, 02114R, 02115R, 02116R

Dear Mr. Traver:

The Pricing, Data Analysis, and Coding (PDAC) Contractor provides Healthcare Common Procedural Coding System (HCPCS) assistance to manufacturers to ensure proper coding of Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies (DMEPOS). The PDAC has reviewed the above listed product. It is our determination that the Medicare HCPCS code to use when billing the four Durable Medical Equipment Medicare Administrative Contractors (DME MACs) is:

L1902 - ANKLE FOOT ORTHOSIS, ANKLE GAUNTLET, PREFABRICATED,  
INCLUDES FITTING AND ADJUSTMENT

The previously assigned code, L1906, requires the orthosis to provide multiligamentous support. In order for an ankle orthosis to provide multiligamentous support, it must have a rigid foot plate. This foot plate provides functional tracking and offers hind foot and mid foot stability during ambulation. This, in conjunction with wrap around straps and the inherent gauntlet design, offer areas of multiligamentous support as described by L1906. The Swede-O Strap Lok Ankle Brace does not have a rigid foot plate; therefore, it is an ankle gauntlet only and does not meet the description of code L1906.

The PDAC provides coding decisions based on the coding guidelines established by the Local Coverage Determination (LCD) and associated policy article developed by the

DME MACs. All products submitted to PDAC for a coding verification review are carefully examined by coders and professionals following a formal, standardized process.

From time to time questions come up with the DME MACs and PDAC as to whether a proper coding decision on a product has been made. When such a question arises, the PDAC will re-review the product and render a decision. If the decision is to change the code assigned, the manufacturer of the product is notified. The manufacturer then has the option to ask for a reconsideration, as outlined on our web site.

This coding decision will be available within ten (10) working days on the Durable Medical Equipment Coding System (DMECS), which is located on the PDAC web site, [www.dmepdac.com](http://www.dmepdac.com). Please take the time to verify that this coding decision is correctly reflected in DMECS.

It is the responsibility of manufacturers and distributors to notify the PDAC immediately of any changes involving their products, related to their current listing on the Product Classification List (PCL) on DMECS. Further information for requesting updates to the PCL can be found on the PDAC website at <https://www.dmepdac.com/review/notifying.html>.

The assignment of a HCPCS code to this product is not an approval or endorsement of the product by Medicare or Noridian Administrative Services, LLC; nor does it imply or guarantee claim reimbursement or coverage. If you have questions about claim coverage or reimbursement, please contact the DME MAC for your jurisdiction.

If you disagree with this decision, you may request a reconsideration within 45 days of the date of this letter. To request a reconsideration, complete the Reconsideration Request form located on the PDAC web site at <https://www.dmepdac.com/review/requesting.html>. If your request for a reconsideration is made after the 45-day time frame, we will treat it as a coding verification review request and require a new application and documentation to support the request.

If you have questions about claim coverage or reimbursement, please contact the DME MAC for your jurisdiction. For other questions, contact the PDAC Contact Center at the address listed above or by telephone at (877) 735-1326. The Contact Center is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. CT.

PDAC  
Noridian Administrative Services, LLC  
[www.dmepdac.com](http://www.dmepdac.com)