



TriCenturion, LLC
P.O. Box 100282
Columbia, SC 29202-3282

Region A DMERC PSC Bulletin December 2003

THIS BULLETIN SHOULD BE SHARED WITH ALL HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONERS AND
MANAGERIAL MEMBERS OF THE PHYSICIAN/SUPPLIER STAFF. BULLETINS ARE AVAILABLE
AT NO COST FROM OUR WEB SITE AT WWW.TRICENTURION.COM
bul20031201KNEEORTHCODES

Knee Orthoses – New Code and Clarification of Codes L1832 and L1845

Effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2004, a new code has been established for a knee orthosis:

L1831 Knee orthosis, locking joint(s), positional orthosis, prefabricated, includes fitting and adjustment

This code describes a knee orthosis which has double uprights and a locking joint for positioning the knee. This joint locks the knee into a particular position either in flexion or extension. This orthosis is designed for a patient who is nonambulatory. It is typically used to treat a flexion contracture of the knee. It is important to distinguish this code from two other existing codes for knee orthoses, L1832 and L1845

Code L1832 describes a prefabricated knee orthosis that has double uprights and adjustable flexion and extension joints. An adjustable flexion and extension joint is one which enables the practitioner to set limits on flexion and extension but allows the patient free motion of the knee within those limits. The joints can be unicentric or polycentric. Medial-lateral control of the knee is accomplished by way of the solid metal (or similar material) structure of the double uprights and condylar pads. This orthosis is designed for a patient who can bear weight on the knee and is capable of some ambulation. It is typically used for early rehabilitation following knee surgery.

Code L1845 describes a prefabricated knee orthosis that has double uprights, condylar pads, and an adjustable flexion and extension joint (as described above) and provides both medial-lateral and rotation control. The joint can be unicentric or polycentric. The function of the joint is to control flexion and extension of the knee joint. Medial-lateral control of the knee is accomplished by the solid metal (or similar material) structure of the double uprights. Rotation control is accomplished by the combination of (1) solid metal (or similar material) in the anterior portion of the thigh and calf cuffs and (2) the condylar pads. Rotation of the knee joint occurs during weight bearing and ambulation. This orthosis is designed for a patient who is fully ambulatory.

THIS BULLETIN SHOULD BE SHARED WITH ALL HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONERS AND
MANAGERIAL MEMBERS OF THE PHYSICIAN/SUPPLIER STAFF. BULLETINS ARE AVAILABLE
AT NO COST FROM OUR WEB SITE AT WWW.TRICENTURION.COM