

# **POWER WHEELCHAIR (PWC) GUIDELINES**

**Per insurance requirements, all points below must be documented in the patient's chart notes.**

Please include the following in the chart notes:

1. **Reason for visit: Mobility Evaluation**
2. **Patient weight and height**
3. Chart notes must be signed and dated by the physician that saw the patient. (MD, DO, PA, and NPs are all acceptable provider levels with insurance, so long as you are PECOS enrolled).
4. Explain which MRADLs the patient is unable to complete without power mobility device (PMD), such as:
  - a) **PMD is necessary to get to the bathroom to toilet/bathe**
  - b) **PMD is necessary to get to the kitchen to prepare meals/eat/do dishes**
  - c) **PMD is necessary to get to bedroom to groom/dress**
5. Office notes **MUST** include objective measurements such as:
  - a) **Upper and lower extremity strength scales** *Ex. UE 2/5, LE 1/5*
  - b) **Upper and lower extremity pain scales** *Ex. UE 5/5, LE 4/5*
  - c) **Number of falls in the past week and/or month** *Ex. Five falls in the last month, fall risk*
  - d) **Pace of ambulation** *Ex. Shuffling gait, abnormal gait, non-ambulatory, etc.*
  - e) **Balance and coordination**
6. Rule out/eliminate ALL the following items and explain why items cannot be used:
  - a) **Cane**
  - b) **Walker**
  - c) **Manual Wheelchair (MWC)**
  - d) **Power Operated Vehicle (POV/Scooter)** *Ex. Cannot safely use tiller system or cannot safely transfer to/from*
7. IF a Power Wheelchair (PWC) will meet mobility needs in the home, PATIENT MUST MEET ALL OF THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA and criteria **must** be documented in chart notes:
  - a) **Patient needs PWC to complete mobility related activities of daily living**
  - b) **Patient has the physical and mental capabilities to safely operate the PWC in the home**
  - c) **Patient is willing and able to safely operate the PWC**
  - d) **Having a PWC in the home will greatly improve MRADLs for patient**



**\*\*Please note: we do not submit this page to insurance—all information must be documented in the chart/SOAP notes. \*\***