

Medicare Coverage of a Scooter

A Power Operated Vehicle (POV) is an electric “scooter.” It is controlled with a tiller steering mechanism and must be appropriate for indoor use.

Many manufacturers of POVs advertise that their product is covered by Medicare. This may be true, however, Medicare coverage is not automatic and a POV is not covered in every case.

Coverage

Your doctor must determine that a POV is medically necessary and prescribe the POV for you. **WARNING** – No supplier should try to sell you a POV that has not been prescribed by your doctor first.

In order for Medicare to consider coverage of your POV, your medical condition must be such that you would be confined to a bed or chair without the use of a wheelchair and you are unable to operate a manual wheelchair. This means that Medicare will not consider coverage of your POV if....

- You can walk
- You can use a manual wheelchair
- You only need the POV for leisure activities
- You would not need the POV for use in your home

Also, you must be capable of safely operating the controls of the POV as well as having adequate trunk stability to ride safely and transfer in and out.

The POV is usually covered only if it is ordered by a physician who is one of the following specialties: Physical Medicine, Orthopedic Surgery, Neurology, or Rheumatology. The physician will have to complete a Medicare form called a Certificate of Medical Necessity (CMN).

Payment

Medicare B will not pay 100% of **any** POV. There **will** be a coinsurance amount. If your supplier does not accept Medicare Assignment on the claim, there may be a balance beyond the coinsurance amount.