

Breastfeeding Coalition

Recommended Coverage Guidelines for Breastfeeding Equipment and Supplies

Purpose

Ensure proper breastfeeding equipment and supplies coverage guidelines for breastfeeding mothers and their infants, to promote and support breastfeeding, and to ensure optimal health outcomes for mothers and infants.

Background

The Affordable Care Act requires non-grandfathered plans and Medicaid expansion states to provide coverage for breast pumps, replacement parts, and milk storage supplies.

“Women’s Preventive Services¹ Initiative recommends comprehensive lactation support services (including consultation; counseling; education by clinicians and peer support services; and breastfeeding equipment and supplies) during the antenatal, perinatal, and postpartum periods to optimize the successful initiation and maintenance of breastfeeding.

Breastfeeding equipment and supplies include, but are not limited to, double electric breast pumps (including pump parts and maintenance) and breast milk storage supplies. Access to double electric pumps should be a priority to optimize breastfeeding and should not be predicated on prior failure of a manual pump. Breastfeeding equipment may also include equipment and supplies as clinically indicated to support dyads with breastfeeding difficulties and those who need additional services.”²

Importance of Breastfeeding

To promote the well-being and survival of infants, maternal health and pediatric experts advise mothers to breastfeed exclusively for the initial six months, followed by continued breastfeeding for up to two years or as long as preferred. Breastmilk, a dynamic mix of nutrients, antibodies, and vitamins that is irreplaceable and easily accessible, significantly benefits a child’s health. Infants who are not breastfed are more susceptible to various health complications and illnesses. Additionally, breastfeeding offers substantial health advantages to the mother, including a reduced likelihood of postpartum depression, lower risks of ovarian and breast cancer, and reduced blood pressure. Breastfeeding is recognized as the superior method of infant nutrition, and represents an affordable and impactful public health measure, providing enduring nutritional and emotional benefits for both mother and child.

¹ A federally supported collaborative program led by [The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists \(ACOG\)](#) to review and recommend updates to the current Women’s Preventive Services Guidelines.

² [Health Resources & Services Administration](#)

Benefits For Infants³

Infants who are breastfed have reduced risks of:

- ✓ Asthma
- ✓ Obesity
- ✓ Type 1 diabetes
- ✓ Severe lower respiratory disease
- ✓ Acute otitis media (ear infections)
- ✓ Sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS)
- ✓ Gastrointestinal infections (diarrhea/vomiting)
- ✓ Necrotizing enterocolitis (NEC) for preterm infants

Benefits For Mother⁴

Breastfeeding can help lower a child bearing mother's risk of:

- ✓ High blood pressure
- ✓ Type 2 diabetes
- ✓ Ovarian cancer
- ✓ Breast cancer

Scope

The recommended coverage guidelines below pertain to those who are involved in the care of breastfeeding mothers and their infants, including insurance carriers, DME providers, obstetricians, pediatricians, lactation consultants, nurses, and other healthcare professionals.

Service/Product	Recommended Coverage
Breast pump, manual, any type (E0602 NU)	Coverage of one (1) manual pump (without prior authorization) with electric breast pump prior to the delivery of the baby. Coverage of one (1) additional manual pump after the delivery of baby, if requested by member.
Breast pump, electric, any type (E0603 NU)	Coverage of one (1) electric breast pump (without prior authorization) with each pregnancy prior to the delivery of the baby.
Breast pump, hospital grade, electric, any type (E0604 RR or NU)	Coverage of one (1) hospital grade breast pump with each pregnancy if separation of infant from mother due to a prolonged hospitalization, infant has a medical condition that interferes with breastfeeding, or mother other has a medical condition that interferes with breastfeeding.
Pump Replacement Parts (A4281-A4286)	Coverage of one (1) replacement breast pump kit (without prior authorization) every 30-45 days after the delivery of the baby, if

³ [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)

⁴ [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)

	requested by member. Replacement breast pump kit at a minimum must include two (2) of each code/part.
Breast Milk Storage Bags (A4287)	Coverage of 120 milk storage bags per month (without prior authorization), provided in 3-month increments, to be available with breast pump and throughout lactation. Bags were previously covered as a temporary code under K1005.

Conclusion:

These breastfeeding equipment and supplies coverage guidelines will help ensure optimal health outcomes for breastfeeding mothers and their infants. By providing equipment, supplies, education, support, and resources to breastfeeding mothers, healthcare providers can help ensure successful breastfeeding outcomes and improve maternal and infant health.