Reimbursement for DME (BRACE) Repairs

Q2: When will Medicare pay for repairs?

A2: Medicare may pay for repair of covered DME which the beneficiary owns or is purchasing, including equipment that the beneficiary was using before becoming enrolled in Part B.

If Medicare paid for the equipment, repairs will be considered on an individual basis.

If Medicare did not pay for the equipment, we will need to have the following documentation attached to the claim to consider coverage of repairs:

www.cignamedicare.com/dmerc/lmpr/AFO.html
A. If Medicare paid for the equipment, repairs will be considered on an individual basis.

B. If Medicare did not pay for the equipment, we will need to have the following documentation attached to the claim to consider coverage of repairs:

If a brace was made for a patient prior to the patient having Medicare coverage (for example; Blue Shield paid the claim for the Brace) You can bill Medicare/ DMERC for the repair/ refurbishment if the patient is now Medicare and still has the brace. You must attach the original invoice for the brace when it was purchased, and include a description of the repairs as detailed later in this show.

Billing Instructions for AFO Repairs

**COVERAGE AND PAYMENT RULES**

| AFOs USED IN AMBULATORY PATIENTS |

Repairs to a covered orthosis due to wear or to accidental damage are covered when they are necessary to make the orthosis functional. The reason for the repair must be documented in the supplier’s record. If the expense for repairs exceeds the estimated expense of providing another entire orthosis, no payment will be made for the amount in excess.

[www.cignamedicare.com/dmerc/lmrp/AFO.html](http://www.cignamedicare.com/dmerc/lmrp/AFO.html)
Billing Instructions for AFO Repairs

Replacement of a complete orthosis or component of an orthosis due to loss, significant change in the patient's condition, or irreparable accidental damage is covered if the device is still medically necessary. The reason for the replacement must be documented in the supplier's record.

www.cignamedicare.com/dmerc/lmrp/AFO.html

Billing Instructions for AFO Repairs

The allowance for the labor involved in replacing an orthotic component that is coded with a specific L code (such as L2820) is included in the allowance for that component.

The allowance for the labor (code L4205) involved in replacing an orthotic component that is coded with the miscellaneous code L4210 is separately payable in addition to the allowance for that component.

www.cignamedicare.com/dmerc/lmrp/AFO.html
Billing Instructions for AFO Repairs

Quantities of supplies greater than those described in the policy as the usual maximum amounts, in the absence of documentation clearly explaining the medical necessity of the excess quantities, will be denied as not medically necessary.

www.cignamedicare.com/dmerc/lmrp/AFO.html

Billing Instructions for AFO Repairs

L4210  REPAIR OF ORTHOTIC DEVICE, REPAIR OR REPLACE MINOR PARTS

L4205  REPAIR OF ORTHOTIC DEVICE, LABOR COMPONENT, PER 15 MINUTES

www.cignamedicare.com/dmerc/lmrp/AFO.html
Billing Instructions for AFO Repairs

1. Billing for minor repairs done on a brace in your office

www.cignamedicare.com/dmerc/lmrp/AFO.html

MINOR IN OFFICE REPAIRS

An example of a repair on a Richie Brace after the Brace has been dispensed would be the replacement of the 3 velcro straps, and the 2 interface sides.

www.cignamedicare.com/dmerc/lmrp/AFO.html
Use Box 19 to describe the repair, or attach separate letter describing the repair.

MINOR IN OFFICE REPAIRS

LAB COST FOR PARTS
5 PIECE KIT

3 Velcro Straps $10
2 Interface Sides $10
$20

SUGGESTED BILLING TO DMERC
L4210 $60 (REPAIR, SMALL PARTS)
L4205 $20 (LABOR per 15 min)

$80

(NOTE: Remember, when billing for codes such as L2820 Soft Interface, the labor is included in that code and suggested fee is $85)

www.cignamedicare.com/dmerc/lmrp/AFO.html
Billing Instructions for AFO Repairs

2 Billing for intermediate repairs
done on a brace in your office

www.cignamedicare.com/dmerc/lmrp/AFO.html

INTERMEDIATE IN OFFICE REPAIR

An example of a repair on a Richie Brace after the Brace has
been dispensed would be the replacement of the 3 velcro
straps, 2 interface sides, polishing and general refurbishing.

L4210 REPAIR
L4205 LABOR PER 15 MIN

www.cignamedicare.com/dmerc/lmrp/AFO.html
Use Box 19 to indicate you have attached documentation describing the repairs done. On your office letterhead, describe the nature of the repair including the time spent (labor).

Billing Instructions for AFO Repairs

Billing for repairs done on a brace sent out to the “Lab”

www.cignamedicare.com/dmerc/lmrp/AFO.html
OUT OF OFFICE LAB REPAIR

An example of a repair on a Richie Brace done at the “Lab” and invoiced to you would be the following which may have included strap replacements, polishing etc.

www.cignamedicare.com/dmerc/lmrp/AFO.html

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Service Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Charge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>04 01 04</td>
<td>L4210</td>
<td>Repair</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

L4210 REPAIR $100
Attach Lab Invoice To Claim

OUT OF OFFICE LAB REPAIR

Use Box 19 to indicate you have attached the “Lab” invoice describing the repairs done for which your office was charged.

www.cignamedicare.com/dmerc/lmrp/AFO.html
CONTACT INFORMATION

DMERC
1-866-243-7272

SADMERC
1-877-735-1326

www.cignamedicare.com/dmerc/lmrp/AFO.html