



## **Medical Policy Reference Manual Medical Policy Operating Procedure**

### **1.02.009A ARCHIVED Casting and Splinting Supplies**

Original MPC Approval: 08/13/2008

Last Review Date: 09/01/2022

Last Revision Date: 09/01/2022

#### **Description**

Casts, splints and splint-like devices are routinely used to treat certain orthopedic conditions caused from trauma or pathology such as bone fractures, tissue injury, or tears to ligaments and tendons. By providing support to the affected site, casts and splints protect the treated area from additional harm during the healing process and can also decrease pain and swelling. Casting supplies are made from either plaster or fiberglass and are used to immobilize the injury. Casts are custom-made from either plaster or fiberglass and fully encase the treated area staying in place until healing is complete. Splints and splint-like devices can be custom-made from the same materials as casting, however, a variety of prefabricated (“off-the-shelf”) splints are available to treat different orthopedic conditions. Splints can be adjusted or removed as needed and are held in place with elastic materials like an ace wrap. (American Academy of Family Physicians, 2009)

#### **Policy**

There is no policy statement for this Operating Procedure.

#### **Policy Guidelines**

There are no Policy Guidelines for this Operating Procedure.

#### **Benefit Applications**

Check the member contract for specific benefits. Additional benefits **are provided** for casting and splinting supplies.

#### **Provider Guidelines**

Casting and splinting supplies should be reported with HCPCS codes A4565, A4566, A4570, A4580, A4590, Q4001 - Q4051, S8450, S8451 or S8452. (These items are considered immediate needs)

#### **Cross References to Related Policies and Procedures**

There are no Related Policies for this Medical Policy Operating Procedure.

#### **References**

The following were among the resources reviewed and considered in developing this policy. By reviewing and considering the resources, CareFirst does not in any way endorse the contents thereof nor assume any liability or responsibility in connection therewith. The opinions and conclusions of the authors of these resources are their own and may or may not be in agreement with those of CareFirst.

American Academy of Family Physicians (2009). Information from your family doctor. Casting and splinting. American family physician, 79(1), 23–24.

**This policy statement relates only to the services or supplies described herein. Coverage will vary from contract to contract and by line of business and should be verified before applying the terms of the policy.**