Dear Mr. McCurtain:

Code A5512 describes a total contact, multiple density, prefabricated removable inlay that is directly molded to the patient's foot. Direct molded means it has been conformed by molding directly to match the plantar surface of the individual patient's foot. Total contact means it makes and retains actual and continuous physical contact with the weight-bearing portions of the foot, including the arch throughout the standing and walking phases of gait.

The insert must retain its shape during use for the life of the insert. The layer responsible for shape retention is called the "base layer" in the code descriptor. This material usually constitutes the bottom layer of the device and must be of a sufficient thickness and durometer to maintain its shape during use (i.e., at least 1/4 inch of 35 Shore A or higher or at least 3/16 inch of 40 Shore A or higher). The material responsible for maintaining the shape of the device must be heat moldable. The specified thickness of the base layer must extend from the heel through the distal metatarsals and may be absent at the toes.

Code A5513 describes a total contact, custom fabricated, multiple density, removable inlay that is molded to a model of the patient's foot so that it conforms to the plantar surface and makes total contact with the foot, including the arch. A custom fabricated device is made from materials that do not have predefined trim lines for heel cup height, arch height and length, or toe shape.

The insert must retain its shape during use for the life of the insert. The base layer of the device must be at least 3/16 inch of 35 Shore A or higher material. The base layer is allowed to be thinner in the custom fabricated device because appropriate arch fill or other additional material will be layered up individually to maintain shape and achieve total contact and accommodate each patient's specific needs. The central portion of the base layer of the heel may be thinner (but at least 1/16 inch) to allow for greater pressure reduction. The specified thickness of the lateral portions of the base layer must extend from the heel through the distal metatarsals and may be absent at the toes. The top layer of the device may be of a lower durometer and must also be heat moldable. The materials used should be suitable with regards to the patient's condition.

Should you need any further coding assistance, please contact us by calling our PDAC Contact Center at (877) 735-1326. The hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. CT.

Sincerely,

Nickie M. PDAC Customer Service Rep. (877)735-1326 XREF8128708

DME PDAC