

Power Wheelchair Documentation Checklist

Required Documentation:

- Face-to-Face (F2F) mobility exam with a physician
- Standard Written Order

Physician's Guide to the Face-to-Face Mobility Exam:

Chart notes must provide objective details and a clear picture of the patient's mobility limitations in the home.

- ☐ Document how mobility limitations impact MRADLs (bathing, dressing, feeding, grooming, toileting)
- ☐ Conduct history & physical exam, including height, weight, and assessment of cardiopulmonary, musculoskeletal, and neurological systems
- ☐ Explain why a cane or walker is insufficient (gait instability, history of falls, pain, etc.)
- ☐ Explain why a manual wheelchair is insufficient (strength, endurance, ROM, pain, oxygen levels, etc.)
- ☐ For power scooters: Document ability to transfer and operate tiller steering
- ☐ For power wheelchairs: Explain why a scooter is insufficient (transfer issues, postural strength, home accessibility)
- ☐ Confirm patient has the physical & cognitive ability to safely operate a power wheelchair

Power Wheelchair Qualification (All Must Apply):

- ☐ Patient cannot safely self-propel a manual wheelchair due to strength, endurance, pain, or coordination limitations
- ☐ Patient does not qualify for a power scooter due to inability to transfer or use tiller steering
- ☐ Patient has the physical and cognitive ability to operate a power wheelchair safely

Next Steps:

1. Physician submits prescription & supporting chart notes
2. Home assessment & power wheelchair fitting scheduled
3. Insurance approval process completed
4. Power wheelchair delivered with patient training

Important: Vague descriptions (e.g., gait instability, poor endurance, pain, weakness, fatigue, SOB) are insufficient. Chart notes must include measurable, objective data.

Note: Physicians may refer patients to PT/OT for further mobility evaluation as part of the F2F exam.

All criteria must be documented in medical records for Medicare/insurance approval.

