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Medicare Coverage for Diabetic Shoes & Inserts

Original Medicare Part B can cover a portion of the cost of therapeutic diabetic shoes, inserts, and shoe modifications. The Part B deductible applies, and you may have coinsurance costs. Below is what you need to know to qualify.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

You must have BOTH:

- Diabetes diagnosis
- Under a comprehensive diabetes treatment plan

PLUS at least one:

- Foot deformity
- Neuropathy with callus
- History of foot ulcers
- Partial or full foot amputation
- Poor circulation in the feet

WHAT MEDICARE REQUIRES

- Certification from the physician managing your diabetes confirming medical necessity
- A prescription from a podiatrist or qualified provider (NP, PA, or clinical nurse specialist)
- Documentation of a comprehensive foot examination

IF YOUR PODIATRIST (DPM) PERFORMS THE FOOT EXAM

Your diabetes managing physician must review the DPM's notes and foot exam, agree with the plan of care, then sign, date, and fax the documentation to Kinetic O&P at (815) 401-7267. To avoid delays, ask your DPM to send these records to your managing physician promptly.

WHAT'S COVERED EACH CALENDAR YEAR

- One (1) pair of extra-depth therapeutic shoes
- Three (3) pairs of inserts (custom-molded or prefabricated)
- Shoe modifications may be covered in place of inserts

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Does Medicare Advantage cover diabetic shoes?

Yes, provided you meet all eligibility requirements. Advantage plans have specific networks — confirm that Kinetic O&P is in your plan's network.

Does Medicare cover shoes for diabetic neuropathy?

Only when accompanied by a callus. Neuropathy alone without callus formation does not qualify for coverage.

What paperwork do I need to provide?

All documentation must be signed, dated within 6 months of delivery, and on file before we can deliver your shoes and inserts. It is your responsibility to ensure that physician certifications, foot exam records, and prescriptions are completed and sent to Kinetic O&P. We are happy to guide you, but we are unable to obtain signatures or records on your behalf.

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