

# North Carolina Medicaid Program Coverage Update: Guide to utilizing Self-Measured Blood Pressure (SMBP) benefits

## General steps for ordering devices and providing clinical support to eligible patients on Medicaid:

### Step 1: Determine if patient is eligible for device

- Patients eligible for blood pressure (BP) devices are outlined in the [North Carolina Nursing Equipment and Supplies Policy Document](#) (Policy 5A-3, p. 20-21)

	Blood Pressure Device	Blood Pressure Cuff
Eligibility	Medically necessary diagnosis, covered once every 3 years	Medically necessary diagnosis, covered once every 3 years

- Blood pressure devices are covered for beneficiaries with medical necessity for independent monitoring and reporting of blood pressure, due to conditions such as hypertension, hypotension, renal failure, or complications of pregnancy. Devices are covered once every 3 years.
- Blood pressure cuffs are covered once every 3 years. A replacement cuff may be covered if the patient's blood pressure cuff becomes damaged or is no longer size appropriate.

### Step 2: Complete Request for Prior Approval for Blood Pressure Device

- Download form [here](#) and complete
- Identify primary diagnosis and relevant ICD diagnosis code, as well as any secondary diagnosis as applicable
- Note date of service code and applicable HCPCS code(s)
- Submit completed form in the [NC Tracks portal](#)

- **Step 3: Check that patient has received their device**
  - Beneficiary should receive notification on how to obtain their device from an approved medical supplier (pick up or home delivery), and may be provided with training via a DME supplier
  
- **Step 4: Initiate SMBP with patient**
  - When patient receives device, ask patient to conduct an in person or virtual visit for initial cuff fitting and training on how to use the device
  
- **Step 5: Provide patient with ongoing SMBP support**
  - Follow SMBP protocol (see resources for more information)
  - Share plan with patient on how often to take readings, record them, and communicate back
  - Update treatment plan as necessary based on SMBP readings
  
- **Step 6: Sustain your SMBP program**
  - Submit claims for SMBP clinical services using CPT® codes
    - Medicaid providers may be reimbursed for SMBP services using 99473, for patient device education and training, and 99474, for data collection and interpretation in North Carolina

## Resources

### Policy

- [North Carolina Policy 5A-3, Nursing Equipment and Supplies](#)

### Patient Eligibility

- [NC Medicaid Request for Prior Approval CMN/PA](#)
- [Request for Prior Approval CMN/PA Continuation Form](#)

### Initiating SMBP with patients

- [AMA 7-step SMBP Quick Guide](#)
- [US Blood Pressure Validated Device Listing \(VDL\)™](#)
- [SMBP Jumpstart](#)

