

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

[[DATE]]

The Honorable Chiquita Brooks-LaSure
Administrator
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, MD 21244

Dear Administrator Brooks-LaSure:

We thank you for opening the National Coverage Analysis (NCA) for coverage of power seat elevation systems last month. Power seat elevation systems have proved highly beneficial to the medical and health outcomes of users, and the NCA is an important step toward making these systems equitability available to those who will benefit from their use.

In addition to power seat elevation systems improving medical outcomes for patients, power standing systems can also be significantly valuable to the medical and health outcomes of patients with significant mobility impairments. Advancing Medicare coverage for both systems will help ensure that Medicare beneficiaries with disabilities like paralysis, muscular dystrophy, ALS, spina bifida and other mobility disabilities can access these benefits.

As you know, a group of patients, providers, researchers and other subject matter experts submitted a Request for Reconsideration in September 2020, seeking Medicare coverage of both power seat elevation and power standing systems. In August 2022, CMS opened an NCA for power seat elevation systems. We greatly appreciate that CMS has taken this step, as it is an important opportunity for the agency to gather additional information that will inform its eventual coverage decision. We were, however, surprised by CMS' decision to not include power standing systems in the NCA, nor to provide a timeline for doing so. We believe the medical evidence is clear that both power seating elevation systems and power standing systems are significantly medially beneficial for patients in need. To help us understand better your plans to address consideration of power standing systems, we request that CMS provide a timeline for:

- 1) your consideration of Medicare coverage for power seat elevation systems, consistent with the existing body of clinical evidence, within all applicable rules and regulations; and
- 2) your plan to open an NCA for power standing systems.

Coverage of these technologies will bring significant benefits to Medicare beneficiaries with mobility impairments, making a timely review and decision process that much more important. Therefore, we respectfully urge you to move forward expeditiously with your review of public comments and the full body of clinical evidence regarding coverage of power seat elevation systems. We also urge you to promptly open the NCA and public comment period regarding coverage of power standing systems. Thank you for your ongoing work on behalf of Medicare beneficiaries and all individuals with disabilities.

[[CLOSING]]

[[SIGNATURES]]