

# Documentation requirements\* for Philips InCourage vest therapy

## For all diagnoses

- 1 Completed, signed and dated prescription.
- 2 6-12 months of medical records supporting the patient's need for airway clearance therapy. Including most recent office visit notes.
- 3 Documentation of "tried and failed" or considered ineffective standard airway clearance treatments (see below examples).



## Bronchiectasis – additional requirements

- 1
  - 2
  - 3 PLUS
  - 4 A CT imaging report confirming bronchiectasis or a statement in medical records indicating the date in which the CT was performed and its confirmation of bronchiectasis.
- and
- 5 **Documentation in medical records of:**  
Daily productive cough for at least 6 continuous months.  
or...  
3+ exacerbations in the past year requiring antibiotic therapy.

## Examples\*\* of "tried and failed" or considered ineffective standard treatments to adequately mobilize secretions

The steps below must be documented in the patient's progress notes:

### Step 1. What standard treatment(s) was tried or considered?\*\*

- acapella®/Aerobika® / PEP device
- CoughAssist
- Autogenic drainage
- CPT (manual or percussor)
- Huff cough

### Step 2. Why was the standard treatment(s) ineffective or inappropriate?\*\*

- Artificial airway
- Insufficient expiratory force
- Too fragile for percussion
- Arthritis/osteoporosis
- Resistance to therapy
- Unable to form mouth seal
- Aspiration risk/GERD
- Scoliosis/rod placement
- Did not mobilize secretions
- Spasticity/contractures

\*Requirements vary by insurance provider  
acapella® is a registered trademark of Smiths Medical, part of ICU Medical Inc.  
Aerobika® is a registered trademark of Monaghan Medical Corporation.

\*\*This educational tool is for the benefit of prescribers and offers general coverage and documentation information for procedures associated with use of vest therapy, which is indicated when external manipulation of the chest as the prescribed treatment to increase the clearance of mucus in patients with pulmonary disorders. This is not legal guidance, nor is it advice about how to document, code, complete, or submit any particular claim for payment. It is always the provider's responsibility to determine appropriate documentation, coverage and submit appropriate codes and charges for services rendered.