



**News Flash** – The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) reminds all providers, physicians, and suppliers to allow sufficient time for the Medicare crossover process to work—approximately 15 work days after Medicare’s reimbursement is made, as stated in MLN Matters Article SE0909 (<http://www.cms.gov/MLN MattersArticles/downloads/SE0909.pdf>) — before attempting to balance bill their patients’ supplemental insurers. That is, do not balance bill until you have received written confirmation from Medicare that your patients’ claims will not be crossed over, or you have received a special notification letter explaining why specified claims cannot be crossed over. Remittance Advice Remark Codes MA18 or N89 on your Medicare Remittance Advice (MRA) represent Medicare’s intention to cross your patients’ claims over.

MLN Matters® Number: MM6566 **Revised**

Related Change Request (CR) #: 6566

Related CR Release Date: May 21, 2010

Effective Date: July 1, 2010

Related CR Transmittal #: R7100TN

Implementation Date: July 6, 2010

## Guidance on Implementing System Edits for Certain Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics and Supplies (DMEPOS)

**Note:** This article was also revised on May 5, 2011, to add a reference to MM7333 at, <http://www.cms.gov/MLN MattersArticles/downloads/MM7333.pdf>, which offers further guidance to DMEPOS suppliers regarding licensing, accreditation and other mandatory quality requirements that may apply. All other information remains the same.

### Provider Types Affected

This article is for suppliers who submit claims to Medicare DME Medicare Administrative Contractors (DME MACs) for DMEPOS provided to Medicare beneficiaries.

### Provider Action Needed

This article is based on Change Request (CR) 6566. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is issuing CR6566 to provide further guidance to

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suppliers of DMEPOS regarding licensing, accreditation, or other mandatory quality requirements that may apply. DMEPOS suppliers should be aware that if they are not identified by the National Supplier Clearing House-Medicare Administrative Contractor (NSC-MAC) **as being accredited** to supply the specific product/service AND they are not exempt from accreditation, their claims will be automatically denied by Medicare.

## Background

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Section 302 of the Medicare Modernization Act of 2003 (MMA) added a new paragraph 1834(a)(20) to the Social Security Act (the Act). This paragraph requires the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services to establish and implement quality standards for suppliers of DMEPOS. All suppliers that furnish such items or services set out at subparagraph 1834(a)(20)(D) as the Secretary determines appropriate must comply with the quality standards in order to receive Medicare Part B payments and to retain a Medicare supplier number to be able to bill Medicare. Pursuant to subparagraph 1834(a)(20)(D) of the Act, the covered items and services are defined in Section 1834(a)(13), Section 1834(h)(4) and Section 1842(s)(2) of the Act. The covered items include:

- DME;
- Medical supplies;
- Home dialysis supplies and equipment;
- Therapeutic shoes;
- Parenteral and enteral nutrient, equipment and supplies;
- Transfusion medicine; and
- Prosthetic devices, prosthetics, and orthotics.

Section 154(b) of the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act of 2008 (MIPPA) added a new subparagraph (F) to Section 1834(a)(20) of the Act. In implementing quality standards under this paragraph the Secretary will **require suppliers furnishing items and services** directly, or as a subcontractor for another entity, to have submitted evidence of accreditation by an accreditation organization designated by the Secretary. This subparagraph states that eligible professionals and other persons (defined below) are exempt from meeting the accreditation deadline unless CMS determines that the quality standards are specifically designed to apply to such professionals and persons. The eligible professionals who are exempt from meeting the September 30, 2009 accreditation deadline (as defined in Section 1848(k)(3)(B)) include the following practitioners:

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- Physicians (as defined in Section 1861(r) of the Act);
- Physical Therapists;
- Occupational Therapists;
- Qualified Speech-Language Pathologists;
- Physician Assistants;
- Nurse Practitioners;
- Clinical Nurse Specialists;
- Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists;
- Certified Nurse-Midwives;
- Clinical Social Workers;
- Clinical Psychologists;
- Registered Dietitians; and
- Nutritional Professionals.

Additionally, MIPPA allows that “other persons” are exempt from meeting the accreditation deadline unless CMS determines that the quality standards are specifically designed to apply to such other persons. At this time, “such other persons” are specifically defined as the following practitioners:

- Orthotists;
- Prosthetists;
- Opticians; and
- Audiologists.

## Key Points of CR6566

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Edits for the Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) codes in the product categories designated by MIPPA as requiring accreditation will be in effect. Effective for claims with dates of service on or after July 6, 2010, this Medicare systems edit will automatically deny claims for these codes unless:

1. The DMEPOS supplier has been identified as accredited for the timeframe that covers the date of service on the claim; or
2. The DMEPOS supplier is currently exempt from meeting the accreditation requirements.

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**Take Note:** Products and services requiring accreditation found on CMS 855S, Section 2D next to the NSC-MAC product codes along with HCPCS codes are as follows:

(To review the descriptors that accompany the HCPCS codes in the product categories see **Attachment C of CR6566**. The Web address of CR6566 can be found in the *Additional Information* section of this article.)

NSC-MAC Product Code	Product Category	HCPCS codes
DM06	Blood Glucose Monitors and Supplies (mail order)	A4253, A4259, A4256, A4258, A4235, A4233, A4234, A4236
M01	Canes and Crutches	A4636
R01	Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) Devices	E0601, A7034, E0562, A7030, A7037, A7035, A7032, A7038, A7033, A7031, A7039, A7046, A7036, E0561, A4604, A7044, A7045
PE01	Enteral Nutrients, Equipment and Supplies	B4035, B4154, B4150, B4152, B4034, B9002, B4153, B4036, B4155, B4149, B9000, B4082, B4081, B4083, B4087, B4088
DM09	Hospital Beds – Electric	E0260, E0261, E0265, E0294, E0295, E0266, E0296, E0297
DM10	Hospital Beds – Manual	E0303, E0255, E0910, E0250, E0940, E0271, E0304, E0301, E0912, E0272, E0302, E0310, E0256, E0911, E0316, E0305, E0292, E0251, E0290, E0293, E0300, E0280, E0291
R08	Oxygen Equipment and Supplies	E1390, E0431, E0439, E0434, K0738, E1392, E0424, E0443, E1391, E0442, E0441, E0443, E0444
R09	Respiratory Assist Devices	E0470, E0471, E0472
DM20	Support Surfaces: Pressure Reducing Beds/Mattresses/Overlays/Pads	E0277, E0372, E0373, E0371, E0193
M05	Walkers	E0143, E0135, E0156, E0149, E0154, E0141, E0147, E0155, E0148, E0140, E0144, E0130, E0158, E0159, E0157, A4637

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NSC-MAC Product Code	Product Category	HCPCS codes
M09	Wheelchairs – Complete Rehabilitative Power Wheelchairs	K0835, K0836, K0841, K0838, K0837, K0842, K0843, K0839, K0840
M09A	Wheelchairs – Complete Rehabilitative Power Wheelchair Related Accessories	
M07	Wheelchairs – Standard Power	K0823, K0822, K0825, K0800, K0824, K0814, K0821, K0801, K0816, K0827, K0815, K0826, K0813, K0806, K0807, K0828, K0802, K0829, K0820, K0808
M07A	Wheelchairs – Standard Power Related Accessories	

## Additional Information

If you have questions, please contact your Medicare DME MAC at their toll-free number which may be found at <http://www.cms.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/CallCenterTollNumDirectory.zip> on the CMS website.

The official instruction (CR6566) issued to your Medicare DME MAC is available at <http://www.cms.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R710OTN.pdf> on the CMS website.

For additional information about the NSC-MAC and Recent Regulatory Revisions Pertinent to Suppliers of DMEPOS, see MLN Matters® article MM6282, which is available at <http://www.cms.gov/mlnmattersarticles/downloads/MM6282.pdf> on the CMS website.

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