

Key Message and Tips for Providers: Durable Medical Equipment, Supplies, and Devices



Message

Knowing about Durable Medical Equipment (DME) will help reduce fraud, waste, and abuse while providing your patients with the equipment they need to function at the best level possible.

When medically necessary, reasonable, and cost effective, Medicaid will purchase or rent DME and medical supplies for use in the home, including those provided by a qualified home health provider as part of home health services.[1, 2] In some States, DME provided through a Medicaid home and community-based services (HCBS) waiver program may have a broader definition or different requirements. Check with your State Medicaid agency for additional information.

TIPS

Following these tips improves billing, prevents unintended consequences, and helps strengthen the integrity of the Medicaid Program by ensuring you meet Medicaid requirements and your patients receive medically necessary DME:

- Verify the Medicaid eligibility status of patients at the time of service;
- Include State-required identifiers, such as the ordering provider's signature and National Provider Identifier on the certificate of medical necessity (CMN) or other prior authorization forms, when ordering services or supplies;[3, 4]
- Order DME according to the medical needs of the beneficiary within the limits set by the State;
- Make sure documentation is current and supports both the patient's condition and the DME requested in the CMN or prior authorization request;
- Only provide and bill for medically necessary DME; and
- Check with your State Medicaid agency for information about services in your area since these programs vary from State to State.

For more information about Medicaid Program Integrity, visit <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare-Medicaid-Coordination/Fraud-Prevention/Medicaid-Integrity-Education/edmic-landing.html> on the CMS Medicaid Program Integrity Education website.

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1 Home Health Services, 42 C.F.R. § 440.70(b)(3). Retrieved June 3, 2015, from <http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=e8fc386c61abf3fc11a176e9ee077368&node=42:4.0.1.1.9.1.112.9&rgn=div8>

2 Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, and Services for Individuals with Speech, Hearing, and Language Disorders; 42 C.F.R. § 440.110(a). Retrieved June 3, 2015, from http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=00e7ce5d968a2aeca42dd3b25c214635&mc=true&node=se42.4.440_1110&rgn=div8

3 South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services. (2015, January 1). Durable Medical Equipment Provider Manual. Medicaid Certificate of Medical Necessity Form for Equipment/Supplies. [DME 001]. Retrieved June 3, 2015, from <http://www.scdhhs.gov/internet/pdf/manuals/dme/Forms.pdf>

4 Texas Medicaid & Healthcare Partnership. (2011, July 15). DME Certification and Receipt Form. Retrieved June 3, 2015, from http://www.tmhp.com/Provider_Forms/Medicaid/F00018_DME_Certification_and_Receipt.pdf