



Related MLN Matters Article #: MM3300

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### *2005 DMEPOS Pricing File Record Layout Expansion and New Pricing Procedures for Certain Durable Medical Equipment Prosthetic, Orthotics & Supplies (DMEPOS) Items based on Modifiers*

#### *Keywords*

MM3300, CR3300, R236CP, AU, AV, AW, DMEPOS, Devices, Billing CR3714, MM3714, A4217, A4450, A4452

#### *Provider Types Affected*

Durable Medical Equipment (DME) suppliers and Home Health Agencies (HHAs)

#### *Key Points*

- The effective date of instruction is January 1, 2005.
- The implementation date is January 3, 2005.

**Note:** Change Request (CR) 3714 removed the instruction that requires modifier AU to always be present with Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) code A4217. The presence of HCPCS code A4217 without modifier AU may be considered a DME supply and processed accordingly.

- The following modifiers were added to the HCPCS to identify supplies and equipment that may be covered under more than one DMEPOS benefit category:
  - AU - Item furnished in conjunction with a urological, ostomy, or tracheostomy supply (relevant HCPCS codes A4217, A4450 and A4452); .
  - AV - Item furnished in conjunction with a prosthetic device, prosthetic or orthotic (relevant HCPCS codes are A4450 and A4452); and
  - AW - Item furnished in conjunction with a surgical dressing (relevant HCPCS codes are A4450 and A4452).
- Codes A4217, A4450 and A4452 are currently the only codes that have been identified that would require use of the modifiers AU, AV or AW.

- On January 3, 2005, Medicare systems will have an expanded file format that will allow entry of two modifiers.
- The complete DMEPOS fee schedule, including modifiers and instructions for the proper reporting and payment of modifiers, AU, AV and AW, when billing for HCPCS codes A4217, A4450, and A4452, as well as for modifier KF for Class III devices, is available at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/DMEPOSFeeSched/LSDMEPOSFEE/list.asp> on the CMS website.
- Currently, the only instance in which more than one modifier will be used in pricing is when modifier KF is used in conjunction with existing DME modifiers NU, RR and UE.
- Billing for elevating/stair climbing power wheelchairs (Class III devices) is as follows:
  - Claims for the base power wheelchair portion of this device are to be billed using HCPCS code K0011 with modifier KF for claims received on or after April 1, 2004, with dates of service on or after January 1, 2004.
  - Claims for the elevation feature for this device should be billed using HCPCS code E2300 for claims with dates of service on or after January 1, 2004.
  - Claims for the stair climbing feature for this device should be billed using HCPCS code A9270 for claims with dates of service on or after January 1, 2004.
- Regional Home Health Intermediaries will not be able to implement the KF modifier until January 1, 2005.
- For claims with dates of service prior to January 1, 2005:
  - HHAs should note that claims for the base power wheelchair portion of stair-climbing wheelchairs must be submitted with HCPCS code E1399, and RHHIs should pay claims for stair-climbing wheelchair bases billed with code E1399 using the fee schedule amounts for K0011 with the KF modifier.
  - All other claims for programmable power wheelchair bases should be paid using the fee schedule amounts for K0011 without the KF modifier.
- Effective for claims with dates of service on or after January 1, 2005, HHAs must submit modifier KF along with the applicable HCPCS code for all DME items classified by the FDA as Class III devices.

### *Important Links*

The related MLN Matters article can be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM3300.pdf> on the CMS website.

The official instruction (CR3300) regarding this change may be viewed at <http://www.cms.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R236CP.pdf> on the CMS website.

MLN Matters article MM3714 can be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM3714.pdf> on the CMS website.

The official instruction for MM3714 (CR3714) may be viewed at <http://www.cms.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R489CP.pdf> on the CMS website.