



Related MLN Matters Article #:4296

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### *New Durable Medical Equipment Prosthetics, Orthotics & Supplies (DMEPOS) Certificates of Medical Necessity (CMNs) and DME Information Forms (DIFs) for Claims Processing*

#### Key Words

MM4296, CR4296, R167PI, Prosthetic, Orthotics, Supplies, DMEPOS, Certificates, CMN, MAC, DIF

#### Provider Types Affected

Physicians, providers, and suppliers using CMNs and DIFs when billing Medicare Durable Medical Equipment Regional Carriers (DMERCs) / DME Medicare Administrative Contractors (DME MACs)

#### Key Points

- The effective date of the instruction is October 1, 2006.
- The implementation date is October 2, 2006.
- CMNs provide a mechanism for suppliers of DME (defined in 42 United States Code (U.S.C.) § 1395x(n)) and Medical Equipment and Supplies (defined in 42 U.S.C. § 1395j(5)) to demonstrate that the item they provide meets the minimal criteria for Medicare coverage.
- Medicare DMERCs and DME MACs review the documentation on the CMNs and DIFs that are provided by physicians, suppliers, and providers to determine if the medical necessity and applicable coverage criteria for selected DMEPOS were met.
- The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has developed improved CMNs and DIFs.
- The changes to the CMN forms have resulted in the following:
  - *Medicare Program Integrity Manual*, Chapter 5, "Items and Services Having Special DME Review Considerations," has been revised.
  - The improved forms permit the use of a signature and date stamp, which has resulted in revision of the *Medicare Program Integrity Manual*, Chapter 3, Section 3.4.1.1, "Documentation Specifications for Areas Selected for Prepayment or Post Payment Medical Review."

- These new forms were approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).
  - For the CMS-484 form, the OMB # is 0938-0534.
  - For the CMS forms 846, 847, 848, 849, 854, 10125 and 10126, the OMB # is 0938-0679.
- There is a transition period for claims with **dates of service** (DOS) from October 1, 2006, through June 30, 2007, where claims for items requiring a CMN or DIF will be accepted with either the old or the new form.
- The tables on pages 2 and 3 of MLN Matters article MM4296 identify the following:
  - The CMNs for claims with initial DOS that will be accepted during the transition period from October 1, 2006, through June 30, 2007;
  - The newly revised CMNs that will be accepted during the transition period for claims with initial DOS from October 1, 2006, through June 30, 2007;
  - The new DIFs that will also be accepted during the transition period for claims with initial DOS from October 1, 2006, through June 30, 2007; and
  - The CMNs that will be eliminated for claims for services provided on or after October 1, 2006.

**Note:** For services on or after July 1, 2007, the old forms will no longer be accepted.

## Important Links

The related MLN Matters article can be found at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM4296.pdf> on the CMS website.

The new series of forms is available as part of Change Request (CR) 4296, which may be viewed at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R167PI.pdf> on the CMS website.

MLN Matters article MM5571 revised MM4296 on April 16, 2007, to reflect that the transition period for use of the new forms has been extended through June 30, 2007. This article may be viewed at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM5571.pdf> on the CMS website.

If providers have any questions, they may contact their DMERC/ DME MAC at their toll-free number, which may be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/CallCenterTollNumDirectory.zip> on the CMS website.