

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services



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Related Change Request (CR) #: CR 9886

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Effective Date: April 24, 2017

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Implementation Date: April 24, 2017

DMEPOS Order Requirements for Changing Suppliers

Provider Types Affected

This MLN Matters® Article is intended for providers and suppliers submitting claims to Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) for Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics and Supplies (DMEPOS) items or services paid under the DMEPOS fee schedule.

What You Need to Know

Change Request (CR) 9886 instructs MACs to accept timely orders and medical documentation (so long as it meets Medicare requirements), regardless of whether the supplier received the documentation directly from the beneficiary's eligible practitioner or from another, transferring supplier. Be aware that a new order is required in the following situations:

- There is a change in the order for the accessory, supply, drug, and so forth
- On a regular basis (even if there is no change in the order) only if it is so specified in the documentation section of a particular medical policy.
- When an item is replaced.
- When there is a change in the supplier, if the recipient supplier did not obtain a valid order for the DMEPOS item from the transferring supplier.

Background

The DMEPOS Competitive Bidding Program (CBP) uses competition among suppliers to improve the effectiveness of the Medicare methodology for setting DMEPOS payment amounts, while ensuring beneficiary access to quality items and services. Industry suggests

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that competition is bolstered and provider burden limited by allowing suppliers to accept medical documentation from other suppliers who previously held responsibility for that beneficiary. This change in the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) instruction would permit MACs to accept timely orders and medical documentation, regardless of whether the supplier received the documentation directly from the beneficiary's eligible practitioner or from a transferring supplier. This change is applicable to all suppliers.

Additional Information

The official instruction, CR9886, issued to your MAC regarding this change is available at <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/2017Downloads/R705PI.pdf>.

Further information about the DMEPOS Competitive Bidding Program is available at <http://www.dmecompetitivebid.com/palmetto/cbic.nsf/DocsCat/Home>.

If you have any questions, please contact your MAC at their toll-free number. That number is available at <https://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Monitoring-Programs/Medicare-FFS-Compliance-Programs/Review-Contractor-Directory-Interactive-Map/>.

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