

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services



News Flash – In September 2012, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced the availability of a new electronic mailing list for those who refer Medicare beneficiaries for Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies (DMEPOS). Referral agents play a critical role in providing information and services to Medicare beneficiaries. To ensure you give Medicare patients the most current DMEPOS Competitive Bidding Program information, CMS strongly encourages you to review the information sent from this new electronic mailing list. In addition, please share the information you receive from the mailing list and the link to the [“mailing list for referral agents”](#) subscriber webpage with others who refer Medicare beneficiaries for DMEPOS. Thank you for signing up!

MLN Matters® Number: MM8204

Related Change Request (CR) #: CR 8204

Related CR Release Date: February 22, 2013

Effective Date: January 1, 2013 for fee schedule amounts for codes in effect on January 1, 2013; April 1, 2013 for all other changes

Related CR Transmittal #: R2661CP

Implementation Date: April 1, 2013

April Quarterly Update for 2013 Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies (DMEPOS) Fee Schedule

Provider Types Affected

This MLN Matters® Article is intended for physicians, other providers, and suppliers submitting claims to Medicare contractors (A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs), carriers, and Durable Medical Equipment MACs (DME MACs) for DMEPOS items or services paid under the DMEPOS fee schedule.

Provider Action Needed

This article is based on Change Request (CR) 8204 and alerts providers and suppliers that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued instructions updating the DMEPOS fee schedule payment amounts. Be sure your billing staffs are aware of these changes.

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Background

The DMEPOS fee schedules are updated on a quarterly basis, when necessary, in order to implement fee schedule amounts for new codes and to revise any fee schedule amounts for existing codes that were calculated in error. The quarterly update process for the DMEPOS fee schedule is documented in the "Medicare Claims Processing Manual," Chapter 23, Section 60 at <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/downloads/clm104c23.pdf> on the CMS website.

Key Points of CR8204

- The coverage indicators for Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) codes L8680, L8682, L8683, L8684, L8685, L8686, L8687, and L8688 have changed from invalid for Medicare ("I") to special coverage instructions apply ("D"), effective January 1, 2013. This change to the coverage indicators for codes L8680 and L8682 through L8688 are noted in the 2013 HCPCS Correction file, posted at <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/HCPCSReleaseCodeSets/Alpha-Numeric-HCPCS.html> on the CMS website.
- The CY 2013 fee schedule amounts for HCPCS codes L8680 and L8682 through L8688 are in the following table. The fee schedule amounts for these codes were updated for 2013 by applying the 2013 0.8 percent update factor to the 2012 fee schedule amounts.

| | JURIS | CATG | L8680 | L8682 | L8683 | L8684 | L8685 | L8686 | L8687 | L8688 |
|----|-------|------|----------|------------|------------|----------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| AL | L | PO | \$432.04 | \$5,607.35 | \$4,935.72 | \$648.16 | \$12,299.59 | \$7,848.15 | \$16,006.69 | \$10,213.57 |
| AR | L | PO | \$432.00 | \$5,606.82 | \$4,935.27 | \$726.11 | \$12,298.45 | \$7,847.38 | \$16,005.21 | \$10,212.60 |
| AZ | L | PO | \$440.40 | \$5,715.74 | \$5,031.17 | \$732.55 | \$12,537.39 | \$7,999.88 | \$16,316.14 | \$10,411.02 |
| CA | L | PO | \$440.40 | \$5,715.74 | \$5,031.17 | \$732.55 | \$12,537.39 | \$7,999.88 | \$16,316.14 | \$10,411.02 |
| CO | L | PO | \$440.03 | \$5,710.88 | \$5,026.89 | \$743.25 | \$12,526.69 | \$7,993.03 | \$16,302.26 | \$10,402.12 |
| CT | L | PO | \$419.40 | \$5,443.44 | \$4,791.47 | \$633.34 | \$11,940.07 | \$7,618.70 | \$15,538.80 | \$9,915.01 |
| DC | L | PO | \$421.17 | \$5,466.07 | \$4,811.39 | \$738.58 | \$11,989.72 | \$7,650.40 | \$15,603.42 | \$9,956.24 |
| DE | L | PO | \$421.17 | \$5,466.07 | \$4,811.39 | \$738.58 | \$11,989.72 | \$7,650.40 | \$15,603.42 | \$9,956.24 |
| FL | L | PO | \$432.04 | \$5,607.35 | \$4,935.72 | \$648.16 | \$12,299.59 | \$7,848.15 | \$16,006.69 | \$10,213.57 |
| GA | L | PO | \$432.04 | \$5,607.35 | \$4,935.72 | \$648.16 | \$12,299.59 | \$7,848.15 | \$16,006.69 | \$10,213.57 |
| IA | L | PO | \$431.78 | \$5,603.95 | \$4,932.79 | \$790.76 | \$12,292.16 | \$7,843.39 | \$15,997.03 | \$10,207.38 |
| ID | L | PO | \$435.71 | \$5,654.72 | \$4,977.44 | \$736.69 | \$12,403.49 | \$7,914.43 | \$16,141.88 | \$10,299.82 |
| IL | L | PO | \$441.29 | \$5,727.21 | \$5,041.26 | \$791.05 | \$12,562.56 | \$8,015.93 | \$16,348.90 | \$10,431.93 |
| IN | L | PO | \$441.29 | \$5,727.21 | \$5,041.26 | \$791.05 | \$12,562.56 | \$8,015.93 | \$16,348.90 | \$10,431.93 |
| KS | L | PO | \$431.78 | \$5,603.95 | \$4,932.79 | \$790.76 | \$12,292.16 | \$7,843.39 | \$15,997.03 | \$10,207.38 |
| KY | L | PO | \$432.04 | \$5,607.35 | \$4,935.72 | \$648.16 | \$12,299.59 | \$7,848.15 | \$16,006.69 | \$10,213.57 |
| LA | L | PO | \$432.00 | \$5,606.82 | \$4,935.27 | \$726.11 | \$12,298.45 | \$7,847.38 | \$16,005.21 | \$10,212.60 |

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| | JURIS | CATG | L8680 | L8682 | L8683 | L8684 | L8685 | L8686 | L8687 | L8688 |
|----|-------|------|----------|------------|------------|----------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| MA | L | PO | \$419.40 | \$5,443.44 | \$4,791.47 | \$633.34 | \$11,940.07 | \$7,618.70 | \$15,538.80 | \$9,915.01 |
| MD | L | PO | \$421.17 | \$5,466.07 | \$4,811.39 | \$738.58 | \$11,989.72 | \$7,650.40 | \$15,603.42 | \$9,956.24 |
| ME | L | PO | \$419.40 | \$5,443.44 | \$4,791.47 | \$633.34 | \$11,940.07 | \$7,618.70 | \$15,538.80 | \$9,915.01 |
| MI | L | PO | \$441.29 | \$5,727.21 | \$5,041.26 | \$791.05 | \$12,562.56 | \$8,015.93 | \$16,348.90 | \$10,431.93 |
| MN | L | PO | \$441.29 | \$5,727.21 | \$5,041.26 | \$791.05 | \$12,562.56 | \$8,015.93 | \$16,348.90 | \$10,431.93 |
| MO | L | PO | \$431.78 | \$5,603.95 | \$4,932.79 | \$790.76 | \$12,292.16 | \$7,843.39 | \$15,997.03 | \$10,207.38 |
| MS | L | PO | \$432.04 | \$5,607.35 | \$4,935.72 | \$648.16 | \$12,299.59 | \$7,848.15 | \$16,006.69 | \$10,213.57 |
| MT | L | PO | \$440.03 | \$5,710.88 | \$5,026.89 | \$743.25 | \$12,526.69 | \$7,993.03 | \$16,302.26 | \$10,402.12 |
| NC | L | PO | \$432.04 | \$5,607.35 | \$4,935.72 | \$648.16 | \$12,299.59 | \$7,848.15 | \$16,006.69 | \$10,213.57 |
| ND | L | PO | \$440.03 | \$5,710.88 | \$5,026.89 | \$743.25 | \$12,526.69 | \$7,993.03 | \$16,302.26 | \$10,402.12 |
| NE | L | PO | \$431.78 | \$5,603.95 | \$4,932.79 | \$790.76 | \$12,292.16 | \$7,843.39 | \$15,997.03 | \$10,207.38 |
| NH | L | PO | \$419.40 | \$5,443.44 | \$4,791.47 | \$633.34 | \$11,940.07 | \$7,618.70 | \$15,538.80 | \$9,915.01 |
| NJ | L | PO | \$419.40 | \$5,443.44 | \$4,791.47 | \$633.34 | \$11,940.07 | \$7,618.70 | \$15,538.80 | \$9,915.01 |
| NM | L | PO | \$432.00 | \$5,606.82 | \$4,935.27 | \$726.11 | \$12,298.45 | \$7,847.38 | \$16,005.21 | \$10,212.60 |
| NV | L | PO | \$440.40 | \$5,715.74 | \$5,031.17 | \$732.55 | \$12,537.39 | \$7,999.88 | \$16,316.14 | \$10,411.02 |
| NY | L | PO | \$419.40 | \$5,443.44 | \$4,791.47 | \$633.34 | \$11,940.07 | \$7,618.70 | \$15,538.80 | \$9,915.01 |
| OH | L | PO | \$441.29 | \$5,727.21 | \$5,041.26 | \$791.05 | \$12,562.56 | \$8,015.93 | \$16,348.90 | \$10,431.93 |
| OK | L | PO | \$432.00 | \$5,606.82 | \$4,935.27 | \$726.11 | \$12,298.45 | \$7,847.38 | \$16,005.21 | \$10,212.60 |
| OR | L | PO | \$435.71 | \$5,654.72 | \$4,977.44 | \$736.69 | \$12,403.49 | \$7,914.43 | \$16,141.88 | \$10,299.82 |
| PA | L | PO | \$421.17 | \$5,466.07 | \$4,811.39 | \$738.58 | \$11,989.72 | \$7,650.40 | \$15,603.42 | \$9,956.24 |
| RI | L | PO | \$419.40 | \$5,443.44 | \$4,791.47 | \$633.34 | \$11,940.07 | \$7,618.70 | \$15,538.80 | \$9,915.01 |
| SC | L | PO | \$432.04 | \$5,607.35 | \$4,935.72 | \$648.16 | \$12,299.59 | \$7,848.15 | \$16,006.69 | \$10,213.57 |
| SD | L | PO | \$440.03 | \$5,710.88 | \$5,026.89 | \$743.25 | \$12,526.69 | \$7,993.03 | \$16,302.26 | \$10,402.12 |
| TN | L | PO | \$432.04 | \$5,607.35 | \$4,935.72 | \$648.16 | \$12,299.59 | \$7,848.15 | \$16,006.69 | \$10,213.57 |
| TX | L | PO | \$432.00 | \$5,606.82 | \$4,935.27 | \$726.11 | \$12,298.45 | \$7,847.38 | \$16,005.21 | \$10,212.60 |
| UT | L | PO | \$440.03 | \$5,710.88 | \$5,026.89 | \$743.25 | \$12,526.69 | \$7,993.03 | \$16,302.26 | \$10,402.12 |
| VA | L | PO | \$421.17 | \$5,466.07 | \$4,811.39 | \$738.58 | \$11,989.72 | \$7,650.40 | \$15,603.42 | \$9,956.24 |
| VT | L | PO | \$419.40 | \$5,443.44 | \$4,791.47 | \$633.34 | \$11,940.07 | \$7,618.70 | \$15,538.80 | \$9,915.01 |
| WA | L | PO | \$435.71 | \$5,654.72 | \$4,977.44 | \$736.69 | \$12,403.49 | \$7,914.43 | \$16,141.88 | \$10,299.82 |
| WI | L | PO | \$441.29 | \$5,727.21 | \$5,041.26 | \$791.05 | \$12,562.56 | \$8,015.93 | \$16,348.90 | \$10,431.93 |
| WV | L | PO | \$421.17 | \$5,466.07 | \$4,811.39 | \$738.58 | \$11,989.72 | \$7,650.40 | \$15,603.42 | \$9,956.24 |
| WY | L | PO | \$440.03 | \$5,710.88 | \$5,026.89 | \$743.25 | \$12,526.69 | \$7,993.03 | \$16,302.26 | \$10,402.12 |
| AK | L | PO | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| HI | L | PO | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| PR | L | PO | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |

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| | JURIS | CATG | L8680 | L8682 | L8683 | L8684 | L8685 | L8686 | L8687 | L8688 |
|----|-------|------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| VI | L | PO | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |

- Take note that the 2013 fee schedule amounts for HCPCS codes L8680 and L8682 through L8688 will not appear on the 2013 DMEPOS fee schedule files. A separate public use file containing only the 2013 fee schedule amounts for codes L8680, and L8682 through L8688 is available for download on the CMS DMEPOS fee schedule website at <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/DMEPOSFeeSched/index.html> on the CMS website.

Diabetic Testing Supplies

- In accordance with Section 636(b) of the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 (ATRA), effective for claims with dates of service on or after April 1, 2013, the 2009 fee schedule covered item update for non-mail order diabetic supplies is revised from 5 percent to -9.5 percent. Diabetic testing supplies are the supplies necessary for the effective use of a blood glucose monitor as listed with the HCPCS codes below. As part of this update, the fee schedule amounts for these codes have been revised to reflect the change in the 2009 covered item update.
 - A4233 Replacement Battery, Alkaline (Other Than J Cell), For Use With Medically Necessary Home Blood Glucose Monitor Owned By Patient, Each.
 - A4234 Replacement Battery, Alkaline, J Cell, For Use with Medically Necessary Home Blood Glucose Monitor Owned By Patient, Each.
 - A4235 Replacement Battery, Lithium, For Use with Medically Necessary Home Blood Glucose Monitor Owned By Patient, Each.
 - A4236 Replacement Battery, Silver Oxide, For Use with Medically Necessary Home Blood Glucose Monitor Owned By Patient, Each.
 - A4253 Blood Glucose Test or Reagent Strips for Home Glucose Monitor, Per 50 Strips.
 - A4256 Normal, Low and High Calibration Solution / Chips.
 - A4258 Spring-powered Device for Lancet, Each.
 - A4259 Lancets, Per Box of 100.

Also, effective for dates of service on or after July 1, 2013, in accordance with Section 636(a) of the ATRA, the fee schedule amounts for non-mail order diabetic supplies will be further adjusted so that they are equal to the single payment amounts for mail order diabetic supplies established in implementing the national mail order competitive bidding program under Section 1847 of the Social Security Act. The national competitive bidding program for mail order diabetic supplies is scheduled to take effect July 1, 2013. The definitions of mail order item and non-mail order item set forth in 42 CFR 414.402 is:

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- Mail Order Item (KL HCPCS modifier)-- Any item shipped or delivered to the beneficiary's home, regardless of the method of delivery.
- Non-Mail Order Item (KL modifier not applicable)-- Any item that a beneficiary or caregiver picks up in person at a local pharmacy or supplier storefront.

A change request instruction and data file will be released for the July Quarterly Update to the 2013 DMEPOS Fee Schedule File to incorporate the new national payment amounts, and these amounts will be updated each time the amounts established in accordance with Section 1847 of the Act are updated. The single payment amount public use file for the national mail order competitive bidding program will be available at www.dmecompetitivebid.com/palmetto/cbic.nsf/DocsCat/Home on the internet.

Additional Information

The official instruction, CR8204 issued to your carrier, DME/MAC, or A/B MAC regarding this change may be viewed at <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/Downloads/R2661CP.pdf> on the CMS website. Current and past DMEPOS Fee schedules can be viewed at <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/DMEPOSFeeSched/DMEPOS-Fee-Schedule.html> on the CMS website.

If you have any questions, please contact your carrier, DME/MAC, or A/B MAC at their toll-free number, which may be found at <http://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Monitoring-Programs/provider-compliance-interactive-map/index.html> on the CMS website.

News Flash - Flu Season Isn't Over – Continue to Recommend Vaccination - While each flu season is different, flu activity typically peaks in February. Yet, even in February, the flu vaccine is still the best defense against the flu. The [CDC](#) recommends yearly flu vaccination for everyone 6 months of age and older; and although anyone can get the flu, adults 65 years and older are at greater risk for serious flu-related complications that can lead to hospitalization and death. Every office visit is an opportunity to check your patients' vaccination status and encourage flu vaccination when appropriate. And getting vaccinated is just as important for health care personnel who can get sick with the flu and spread it to family, colleagues and patients. Be an example by getting your flu vaccine and know that you're helping to reduce the spread of flu in your community. Note: influenza vaccines and their administration fees are covered Part B benefits. Influenza vaccines are NOT Part D-covered drugs. *For More Information:*

- 2012-2013 [Seasonal Influenza Vaccines Pricing](#).
- [MLN Matters® Article MM8047](#), "Influenza Vaccine Payment Allowances - Annual Update for 2012-2013 Season."
- [CMS Medicare Learning Network® 2012-2013 Seasonal Influenza Virus Educational Products and Resources](#) and [CMS Immunizations](#) web pages for information on coverage and billing.
- [HealthMap Vaccine Finder](#) – a free, online service where users can find nearby locations offering flu vaccines as well as other vaccines for adults.
- The [CDC's](#) website offers a variety of provider resources for the 2012-2013 flu season.

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