

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



New product from the Medicare Learning Network® (MLN)

- [“Home Oxygen Therapy”](#) Booklet, (ICN 908804), downloadable

MLN Matters® Number: MM9279

Related CR Release Date: August 14, 2015

Related Transmittal #: R3323CP

Change Request (CR) #: CR 9279

Effective Date: January 1, 2015 (for implementation of fee schedule amounts for codes in effect on January 1, 2015; October 1, 2015 for all other changes)

Implementation Date: October 5, 2015

October 2015 Code Set Update October Quarterly Update for 2015 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 Administrative Contractors (MACs), including Home Health and Hospice MACs and Durable Medical Equipment (DME MACs), for DMEPOS items or services paid under the DMEPOS fee schedule.

Provider Action Needed

Change Request (CR) 9279 alerts providers and suppliers that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued instructions updating the DMEPOS fee schedule payment amounts, effective October 1, 2015. Make sure your billing staffs are aware of the changes.

Disclaimer

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Background

The DMEPOS fee schedule are updated on a quarterly basis, when necessary, in order to implement fee schedule amounts for new and existing codes, as applicable, and apply changes in payment policies. The quarterly update process for the DMEPOS fee schedule is located in Pub.100-04, "Medicare Claims Processing Manual," Chapter 23, Section 60, found here <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/downloads/clm104c23.pdf> on the CMS website.

The recurring update notification provides instructions regarding the October quarterly update for the 2015 DMEPOS fee schedule. Payment on a fee schedule basis is required for Durable Medical Equipment (DME), prosthetic devices, orthotics, prosthetics and surgical dressings by §1834(a), (h), and (i) of the Social Security Act. Payment on a fee schedule basis is a regulatory requirement at 42 CFR §414.102 for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (PEN), splints and casts, and Intraocular Lenses (IOLs) inserted in a physician's office.

As part of the October 2015 update, fee schedules are established for the following two Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) codes added to the HCPCS file effective January 1, 2005:

- E0639 - Patient lift, moveable from room to room with disassembly and reassembly, includes all components/accessories, and
- E0640 - Patient lift, fixed system includes all components/accessories.

The fee schedule amounts for both codes were established using fees for comparable items in accordance with the instructions found in the "[Medicare Claims Processing Manual](#)," Chapter 23, Section 60.3. An average of the existing hydraulic or mechanical patient lift code E0630 and the electric patient code E0635 were used to establish the fee schedules for the hydraulic or electric patient lifts described under E0639 and E0640. The fee schedules for E0639 and E0640 are effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2015. This update also revises the type of service code for HCPCS codes E0639 and E0640 from "9" to type of service code "R".

CR9279 also provides revised fee schedules for speech generating device (SGD) HCPCS codes E2500, E2502, E2504, E2506, E2508, E2510 and E2351 per the recent amendments to Section 1834(a)(2)(A) of the Social Security Act. The Steve Gleason Act of 2015 was signed by the President on July 30, 2015 and changes the DME payment category for SGDs and accessories essential for the effective use of the SGD furnished between October 1, 2015 and September 30, 2018, from capped rental (CR) to inexpensive or routinely purchased (IN). Instructions relating to the implementation of the SGD amendments to Section 1834(a)(2)(A) were issued in Change Request 9179, dated June 12, 2015. The NU, UE, and RR fee schedule amounts for codes E2500, E2502, E2504, E2506, E2508, E2510 and E2351 are being added to the fee schedule file as part of this update.

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The MLN Matters® Article related to CR9179 is available at <https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/Downloads/MM9179.pdf> on the CMS website.

Additional Information

The official instruction, CR9279, issued to your MAC regarding this change is available at <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/Downloads/R3323CP.pdf> on the CMS website.

If you have any questions, please contact your MAC at their toll-free number. That number is available at <http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/index.html> under - How Does It Work.

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