

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services 7500 Security Boulevard,
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850



An Important Message for Medicare Patients:

This letter is to let you know about a Medicare program called “prior authorization” that may apply to you if you receive certain types of durable medical equipment, prosthetics, orthotics, and supplies (DMEPOS) items now or in the future. Under prior authorization, your DMEPOS supplier will submit documentation to Medicare before an item is provided so that Medicare can make sure all relevant Medicare requirements are met. **This program doesn’t change your Medicare DMEPOS benefits or Medicare coverage requirements and you should not experience delays accessing needed items.**

Beginning September 1, 2018, Medicare will require prior authorization for the DMEPOS items described below. Medicare will begin accepting prior authorization requests for these codes on August 18, 2018.

- Group 1 power operated wheelchairs: (K0813-K0816)
- Group 2 standard power operated wheelchairs: (K0820-K0829)
- All Group 2 complex rehabilitative power wheelchairs: (K035-K043)
- Group 3 complex rehabilitative wheelchairs without power options: (K0848-K0855)

Medicare already requires prior authorization for K0856 and K0861, both group 3 power wheelchairs.

What do I need to do?

You don’t need to take any action. If your physician prescribes one of the wheelchairs mentioned above to you, your DMEPOS supplier will, in most cases, submit a prior authorization request and all documentation to Medicare on your behalf. You can choose to submit the request yourself if you get the required documents from your DMEPOS supplier and physician.

How will I know if the request was approved?

Medicare will send a decision letter to your DMEPOS supplier. You may contact your DMEPOS supplier regarding the prior authorization decision and request a decision letter, or your DMEPOS supplier may voluntarily send you a decision letter. You may also contact Medicare by calling 1-800-MEDICARE.

How can I learn more or provide feedback on my experience?

Information is always available to patients by calling 1-800-MEDICARE.

Additional information about this program is posted on the CMS website, available at:
<https://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Monitoring-Programs/Medicare-FFS-Compliance-Programs/DMEPOS/Prior-Authorization-Process-for-Certain-Durable-Medical-Equipment-Prosthetic-Orthotics-Supplies-Items.html>

This website also provides information regarding how to provide feedback on your experience with this program.

If you want to report possible fraud, visit [Medicare.gov](https://www.Medicare.gov) or call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.F