

Additional Documentation Limits for FY 2011 for Durable Medical Equipment (DME) Suppliers (as of October 20, 2010)

In response to feedback from the RACs, providers/suppliers and their associations, CMS has modified the additional documentation request limits for the RAC program in FY 2011 for suppliers. These limits will be set by CMS on a regular basis to establish a cap per supplier on the maximum number of medical records that may be requested per RAC, per 45-day period. Each limit will be based on a given supplier's prior calendar year Medicare claims volume within each RAC region.

1. Limits will be based on the supplier's Tax Identification Number (TIN). A national supplier who has one TIN and has claims paid by all four DME MACs will have claims available for review by all RACs.
2. Limits will be set at 10% of all claims submitted for the previous full calendar year, divided into eight periods (45 days). Although the RACs may go more than 45 days between record requests, in no case shall they make requests more frequently than every 45 days.

Note: FY 2011 limits are based on submitted claims, irrespective of paid/denied status and/or individual lines, although credit/replacement pairs shall be considered a single claim. For example:

- Supplier A billed 1,253 claims last year. The supplier's additional documentation limit would be $(1,253 * 0.1) / 8 = 15.6625$, or 16 additional documentation requests per 45 days.
 - Supplier B billed 255,000 claims last year. The supplier's additional documentation limit would be $(255,000 * 0.1) / 8 = 3,187.5$. The provider's additional documentation limit would be 3,188 additional documentation requests every 45 days, if there were no cap in place (see below).
3. The cap for FY 2011 will be 250 additional documentation requests per 45 days for all suppliers.
 4. In addition, in FY 2011 CMS will allow the RACs to request permission to exceed the cap. The expanded cap will not be automatic; the RACs must request approval from CMS on a case-by-case basis and affected suppliers will be notified prior to receiving additional requests.

Questions concerning this update can be directed to RAC@cms.hhs.gov.