

Prior Authorization of Power Mobility Devices (PMDs) Demonstration:

Fact Sheet

This demonstration will implement a Prior Authorization process for scooters and power wheelchairs for all people with Medicare who reside in seven states with high populations of fraud- and error-prone providers (CA, IL, MI, NY, NC, FL and TX). This demonstration is designed to develop and demonstrate improved methods for the investigation and prosecution of fraud in the provision of care or services under the health programs established by the Social Security Act. This demonstration will also help ensure that a beneficiary's medical condition warrants their medical equipment under existing coverage guidelines. Moreover, the program will assist in preserving a Medicare beneficiary's ability to receive quality products from accredited suppliers.

General Information

- PMDs are expensive items that are sometimes provided when not medically necessary. In addition this type of medical equipment has had a history of fraud and abuse. Consequently these instances contribute to Medicare's improper payments. Focusing on this item is a good opportunity to reduce waste and abuse.
- Under this demonstration, for beneficiaries who reside in one of the demonstration states, CMS will have a prior authorization process, for the following items paid by Medicare:
 - All Power Operated Vehicles (K0800-K0805 and K0809-K0812)
 - All standard power wheelchairs (K0813 thru K0829)
 - All Group 2 complex rehabilitative power wheelchairs (K0835 thru K0843)
 - All Group 3 complex rehabilitative power wheelchairs without power options (K0848 thru K0855)
 - All pediatric and Group 4 power wheelchairs (K0887 thru K0891)
 - Miscellaneous power wheelchairs (K0898)
 - Group 3 complex rehabilitative power wheelchairs with power options (K0856 thru K0864) are excluded.
- CMS recognizes there are many honest suppliers. However, law enforcement indictments indicate widespread power mobility device (PMD) fraud. The Office of the Inspector General and the Government Accountability Office have also reported on the abuse of these items. In addition, the error rate for these items is consistently very high despite our previous efforts over many years to target problem suppliers with intensified review. To prevent fraud, waste and abuse CMS is taking bold actions to address this issue.

More information on this demonstration is available at [Go.cms.gov/PAdemo](https://www.cms.gov/PAdemo).

Additional questions on the PMD prior authorization demonstration can be sent to CMS at PAdemo@cms.hhs.gov.