

RULE

Department of Health and Hospitals
Office of the Secretary
Bureau of Health Services Financing

Durable Medical Equipment

The Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing has adopted the following rule in the Medical Assistance Program as authorized by R.S. 46:153 and pursuant to Title XIX of the Social Security Act and as directed by the 1995-96 General Appropriations Act which states: "The Secretary shall implement reductions in the Medicaid program as necessary to control expenditures to the level approved in this schedule. The secretary is hereby directed to utilize various cost containment measures to accomplish these reductions, including but not limited to pre-certification, pre-admission screening, and utilization review, and other measures as allowed federal law." This rule is in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R. S. 49:950 et seq.

Rule

The Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing adopts the following provisions governing the reimbursement of durable medical equipment in the Medicaid Program.

1. The flat fee component of the reimbursement methodology for durable medical equipment is revised at a rate of 80 percent of the Medicare durable medical equipment fee schedule or at the lowest cost at which a needed item has been determined to be widely available.
2. If the item is not available at 80 percent of the Medicare DME fee schedule, the flat fee to be utilized will be 100 percent of the Medicare durable medical equipment fee schedule or at the lowest cost at which these items have been determined to be widely available.
3. Wound care supplies and dressings, and other medically necessary supply items exclusively designated for home health care are reimbursable under the Durable Medical Equipment Program, and are not reimbursable under the Home Health Program. Durable medical equipment providers must obtain prior authorization through the prior authorization process required under the Durable Medical Equipment Program in order to provide and be reimbursed for these home health care supplies. These supplies must be used by home health agencies in the home.
4. Diapers and blue pads are not reimbursable supply items under the Durable Medical Equipment Program.

Bobby Jindal
Secretary

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