

Wisconsin Medicaid update and BadgerCare

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Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Information for Providers

To:

Audiologists

Hearing
Instrument
Specialists

Individual Medical
Suppliers

Medical Vendors

Pharmacies

Speech and
Hearing Clinics

HMOs and Other
Managed Care
Programs

Changes in hearing aid battery codes

Effective September 1, 2000, Wisconsin Medicaid is making the following changes:

- Adopting a single type of service for hearing aid batteries.
- Deleting several procedure codes.
- Changing procedure code descriptions.
- Adjusting maximum allowable fees.

Type of service changes

Hearing aid batteries are considered disposable medical supplies (DMS). Effective September 1, 2000, providers will be required to bill using type of service (TOS) "9" (the code for "DMS") for all hearing aid batteries. Type of service "P" (the code for "purchase new durable medical equipment [DME]") will no longer be valid.

Refer to Attachment 1 of this *Update* for a list of the procedure codes, as well as coverage and limitations for each code that providers are to use when billing Wisconsin Medicaid.

Column headings and abbreviations in Attachment 1 are identical to those found in the Wisconsin Medicaid DMS Index.

Procedure code deletions

In accordance with federal environmental law and current industry standards, several procedure codes have been deleted.

Mercury hearing aid batteries are no longer covered by Wisconsin Medicaid based on federal environmental law and new industry standards. In addition, the binaural codes for hearing aid batteries are no longer in effect. Refer to Attachment 2 for a list of deleted hearing aid battery codes.

Description changes for procedure codes

Procedure code descriptions have changed for most of the codes listed in Attachment 1. The following criteria apply for all of the codes listed in Attachment 1:

- Modifiers are not required.
- None of the codes are included in the nursing home (NH) daily rate or home health (HH) home care visit rate and therefore can be billed separately.
- The maximum quantity allowed per recipient, per calendar month (e.g., January, February, March, etc.) is a total of 12 batteries, regardless of whether the request is for one type of battery or a combination of different batteries.

- Batteries are exempt from copayments.
- Prior authorization (PA) is required to request batteries beyond the 12-battery threshold or if no code exists. Refer to the DMS Index for PA requirements.

Maximum allowable fees per battery

The maximum allowable fees indicated in Attachment 1 are per battery, rather than per box of batteries.

This *Update* applies to fee-for-service Medicaid providers only. If you are a Medicaid HMO network provider, contact your managed care organization for more information about its billing procedures. Wisconsin Medicaid HMOs

are required to provide at least the same benefits for enrollees as those provided under fee-for-service arrangements.

The *Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Update* is the first source of program policy and billing information for providers.

Although the *Update* refers to Medicaid recipients, all information applies to BadgerCare recipients also.

Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare are administered by the Division of Health Care Financing, Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services, P.O. Box 309, Madison, WI 53701-0309.

For questions, call Provider Services at (800) 947-9627 or (608) 221-9883 or visit our Web site at www.dhfs.state.wi.us/medicaid/.

ATTACHMENT 1

Valid hearing aid battery codes

(Effective for dates of service on and after September 1, 2000)

| CODE | MOD | IN NH RATE | IN HH RATE | DESCRIPTION | MAX FEE | MAXIMUM QUANTITY ALLOWED/MONTH |
|-------|-----|------------|------------|------------------------------------|---------|--------------------------------|
| W6911 | NO | NO | NO | Battery, hearing aid: Silver 675 | \$1.00 | 12 total |
| W6912 | NO | NO | NO | Battery, hearing aid: Silver 13 | \$1.00 | 12 total |
| W6927 | NO | NO | NO | Battery, hearing aid: Silver 312 | \$1.00 | 12 total |
| W6940 | NO | NO | NO | Battery, hearing aid: Zinc Air 10 | \$1.10 | 12 total |
| W6941 | NO | NO | NO | Battery, hearing aid: Zinc Air 5 | \$1.25 | 12 total |
| W6943 | NO | NO | NO | Battery, hearing aid: Zinc Air 13 | \$1.00 | 12 total |
| W6944 | NO | NO | NO | Battery, hearing aid: Zinc Air 675 | \$1.00 | 12 total |
| W6955 | NO | NO | NO | Battery, hearing aid: Zinc Air 312 | \$1.00 | 12 total |

MOD - NO = Modifier not required with this procedure code

HH = Home health

NH = Nursing home

Bill all codes as type of service "9"

Maximum allowable fee indicated is per battery

ATTACHMENT 2

Deleted hearing aid battery codes

(Effective for dates of service on and after September 1, 2000)

| CODE | DESCRIPTION |
|-------|-----------------------------------|
| W6910 | Battery, hearing aid: Mercury 164 |
| W6913 | Silver 41 – standard |
| W6914 | Silver 312 – standard |
| W6915 | Mercury 13 – standard |
| W6916 | Mercury 41 – standard |
| W6917 | Mercury 132 – standard |
| W6918 | Mercury 312 – standard |
| W6919 | Mercury 401 – standard |
| W6920 | Mercury 502 – standard |
| W6922 | Mercury 675 – standard |
| W6923 | Zinc carbon – standard |
| W6924 | Silver 76 – binaural |
| W6925 | Silver 13 – binaural |
| W6926 | Silver 41 – binaural |

| CODE | DESCRIPTION |
|-------|----------------------------|
| W6928 | Mercury 13 – binaural |
| W6929 | Mercury 41 – binaural |
| W6930 | Mercury 132 – binaural |
| W6931 | Mercury 312 – binaural |
| W6932 | Mercury 401 – binaural |
| W6933 | Mercury 502 – binaural |
| W6934 | Mercury 675 – binaural |
| W6935 | Zinc carbon – binaural |
| W6936 | Alkaline 500 – binaural |
| W6937 | Zinc air 13 ZA – binaural |
| W6938 | Zinc air 675 ZA – binaural |
| W6939 | Zinc air 312 – binaural |
| W6942 | Alkaline 500 – standard |
| W6945 | Activair |