

Affected Programs: BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid, Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program

To: Audiologists, Blood Banks, Federally Qualified Health Centers, Hearing Instrument Specialists, Home Health Agencies, Individual Medical Supply Providers, Medical Equipment Vendors, Nurses in Independent Practice, Nursing Homes, Occupational Therapists, Personal Care Agencies, Pharmacies, Physical Therapists, Rehabilitation Agencies, Speech and Hearing Clinics, Speech-Language Pathologists, Therapy Groups, HMOs and Other Managed Care Programs

National Provider Identifier Policy Clarification for Durable Medical Equipment Providers

Beginning August 1, 2011, applications for Medicaid or Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program certification received from durable medical equipment providers who are *not* sole proprietors or individual providers are required to have a unique National Provider Identifier (NPI) for each location from which they do business. A separate certification application and NPI must be submitted for each location.

The policy clarification in this *ForwardHealth Update* supports federal regulations from the National Provider Identifier (NPI) Final Rule, which requires unique enumeration of every location of a durable medical equipment (DME) supplier regardless of how claims will be submitted. This policy affects applications for Medicaid and Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program (WCDP) certification received from DME providers who are not sole proprietors or individual providers.

National Provider Identifier Policy Clarification

Effective for new Medicaid and WCDP certification applications received by ForwardHealth on and after August 1, 2011, each DME provider, with the exception of individuals and sole proprietors, is required to do the following:

- Ensure that each practice location, if there is more than one, has its own unique NPI. To obtain an NPI,

providers may request one online at

<https://NPPEs.cms.bhs.gov/>.

- Apply for Medicaid or WCDP certification for each practice location.

Revised certification criteria for DME providers are included in the Attachment of this *Update*.

Durable Medical Equipment Providers Who Are Individuals or Sole Proprietors

Individual providers and sole proprietors are an exception to the multiple practice location requirements for DME. A DME provider who is a sole proprietor needs only one NPI, as he or she is assigned an Entity Type 1, or individual, NPI. As an individual or a sole proprietor, a provider may not receive or designate more than one NPI.

Note: An individual or sole proprietor who has two Medicaid or WCDP certifications (DME and some other certification) does not need to apply for an additional NPI if there is only one practice location. For example, a podiatrist who is Medicaid certified to provide podiatry services at her single practice location does not need to apply for an additional NPI if she is also certified to provide DME. She can continue to use one NPI for both certifications, since the taxonomy code she uses will reflect the different services rendered.

Information Regarding Managed Care Organizations

This *Update* contains fee-for-service policy and applies to services members receive on a fee-for-service basis only. For managed care policy, contact the appropriate managed care organization (MCO). Managed care organizations are required to provide at least the same benefits as those provided under fee-for-service arrangements. Members enrolled only in WCDP are not enrolled in MCOs.

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

Wisconsin Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, SeniorCare, and Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program are administered by the Division of Health Care Access and Accountability, Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS). The Wisconsin Well Woman Program is administered by the Division of Public Health, Wisconsin DHS.

For questions, call Provider Services at (800) 947-9627 or visit our Web site at www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/.

P-1250

ATTACHMENT

Revised Durable Medical Equipment and Medical Supplies Certification Criteria

(The revised “Durable Medical Equipment and Medical Supplies Certification Criteria”
are located on the following page.)



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DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES CERTIFICATION CRITERIA

Per section DHS 105.40, Wis. Admin. Code:

- (1) Except as provided in sub. (2), vendors of durable medical equipment (DME) and medical supplies shall be eligible to participate in the Medicaid program.
- (2) Orthotists and prosthetists who develop and fit appliances for members shall be certified by the American board for certification in orthotics and prosthetics (ABC). Certification shall be a result of successful participation in an ABC examination in prosthetics, orthotics, or both, and shall be for:
 - (a) Certified prosthetist (CP);
 - (b) Certified orthotist (CO); or
 - (c) Certified prosthetist and orthotist (CPO).

Note: For covered DME and medical supply services, see DHS 107.24, Wis. Admin. Code.

History: Cr. Register, February, 1986, No. 362, effective March 1, 1986.

NATIONAL PROVIDER IDENTIFIER REQUIREMENTS FOR DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT PROVIDERS

Each DME provider, with the exception of individuals and sole proprietors, is required to do the following:

- Ensure that each practice location, if there is more than one, has its own unique National Provider Identifier (NPI). To obtain an NPI, providers may request one online at <https://NPPES.cms.hhs.gov/>.
- Apply for Medicaid certification for each practice location.

Sole proprietors and individual providers are an exception to this requirement. A DME provider who is a sole proprietor needs only one NPI, as he or she is assigned an Entity Type 1, or individual, NPI. As a sole proprietor or an individual, a provider may not receive or designate more than one NPI.

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