

**Affected Programs:** BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan, BadgerCare Plus Benchmark Plan, Medicaid

**To:** Individual Medical Supply Providers, Medical Equipment Vendors, Pharmacies, Nursing Homes, HMOs and other Managed Care Programs

## Changes to Reimbursement for Exceptional Supplies for Nursing Home Residents

Effective for dates of service on and after January 1, 2012, exceptional supply reimbursement for nursing home residents who are dependent on a ventilator for life support or residents who have a tracheostomy will now only be included in the nursing home daily rate.

Effective for dates of service (DOS) on and after January 1, 2012, exceptional supply reimbursement for nursing home residents who are ventilator dependent for life support or residents who have a tracheostomy will no longer be considered for prior authorization (PA). The cost of these supplies will only be included in the nursing home daily rate per section 5.140 of Methods of Implementation for Wisconsin Medicaid Nursing Home Payment rates.

Additional reimbursement for exceptional supplies and equipment for nursing home residents who are ventilator dependent for life support or have a tracheostomy will be discontinued. Claims for exceptional supplies submitted to ForwardHealth for DOS on and after January 1, 2012, will be denied. *Costs for the exceptional supplies and equipment cannot be billed to a member residing in a nursing home or an authorized person acting on behalf of the member.*

### Current Prior Authorizations for Exceptional Supplies

Disposable medical supplies and certain durable medical equipment in the exceptional supplies category previously required PA using procedure code E1399 (durable medical equipment, miscellaneous). Approved PAs for exceptional supplies will be end dated on December 31, 2011, for all nursing homes, with or without dedicated ventilator units, since the supplies and equipment will only be included in the nursing home daily rate.

### Rate Change for Approved Dedicated Units for Ventilator Dependent Members

A PA continues to be required for a member to reside in an approved dedicated unit for ventilator dependent members. Effective for DOS on and after January 1, 2012, reimbursement for the care of a ventilator dependent member residing in an approved dedicated unit will increase from \$475.00 to \$500.00 per day, in accordance with s. 4.691 Methods of Implementation for Wisconsin Medicaid Nursing Home Payment rates.

### Information Regarding Managed Care Organizations

This *ForwardHealth Update* contains fee-for-service policy and applies to services members receive on a fee-for-services basis only. For managed care policy, contact the appropriate managed care organization. Managed care organizations are

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

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/](http://www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/).

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