

Affected Programs: BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid

To: Chiropractors, Hearing Instrument Specialists, Home Health Agencies, Hospital Providers, Individual Medical Supply Providers, Medical Equipment Vendors, Nursing Homes, Nurses in Independent Practice, Nurse Midwives, Occupational Therapists, Pharmacies, Physical Therapists, Physician Clinics, Physicians, Podiatrists, Rehabilitation Agencies, Therapy Groups, HMOs and Other Managed Care Programs

New Durable Medical Equipment Index Available

As of September 1, 2012, a new Portable Document Format version of the Durable Medical Equipment (DME) Index will be available on the ForwardHealth Portal. This new index will include updated DME maximum allowable fee and coverage information. This *ForwardHealth Update* outlines the information and changes reflected in the new DME Index.

New Durable Medical Equipment Index

As of September 1, 2012, a new Portable Document Format (PDF) version of the Durable Medical Equipment (DME) Index will be available on the Provider-specific Resources page of the ForwardHealth Portal. This user-friendly PDF version will be updated periodically (changes will be highlighted in yellow) and includes a comprehensive list of allowable DME procedure codes and modifiers, along with associated quantity limits and maximum allowable fee information. The new DME Index is divided into separate categories of DME making the information easier to access.

Note: Providers should refer to the new DME Index for the most comprehensive policy information.

Maximum Allowable Fee, Place of Service, and Modifier Changes

Effective for dates of service on and after September 1, 2012, the following changes will be reflected in the new DME Index:

- Maximum allowable fees have changed for some DME.

- For some DME, maximum allowable fees have been added.
- The dollar limit that is allowable for use with the RB modifier for wheelchair repair/miscellaneous parts before prior authorization (PA) is required has been increased up to the following limits: \$150 for manual wheelchairs, \$150 for power operated vehicles, and \$300 for power wheelchairs.
- Procedure codes that require an indication of an RT or LT modifier have been noted.
- Place of service (POS) code 54 (Intermediate Care Facility/Mentally Retarded) has been added as an allowable POS for PA requests/claims for DME provided to members residing in facilities for developmental disabilities (FDD), also referred to as intermediate care facilities for the mentally retarded (ICF-MR). Providers should no longer indicate POS 31 (Skilled Nursing Facility) or 32 (Nursing Facility) when providing DME for members residing in an FDD or ICF-MR.

Information Regarding Managed Care Organizations

This *ForwardHealth 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. 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/.

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This *Update* was issued on August 31, 2012, and information contained in this *Update* was incorporated into the Online Handbook on January 8, 2013.