

PROVIDER BULLETIN

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PHYSICIAN AND DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

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COVERAGE CRITERIA FOR RENTAL OF AN OXIMETER DEVICE FOR MEASURING BLOOD OXYGEN LEVELS (E0445EPRR)

An oximeter device is used to measure oxygen saturation levels using a non-invasive probe. This device may be covered by MO HealthNet for participants under 21 years of age when one of the following categories applies:

1. The prescriber must indicate that the equipment is for continuous or intermittent use and:
 - The participant is dependent on both a ventilator (without built in pulse oximeter) and supplemental oxygen; OR
 - The participant has a tracheotomy and is dependent upon supplemental oxygen; OR
 - The participant requires supplemental oxygen and has unstable saturations; OR
 - The participant requires supplemental oxygen and weaning is in process.
2. An oximeter device needed for short-term or overnight use to rule out hypoxemia will require an appropriately documented respiratory diagnosis. Coverage for this situation will be allowed for a maximum of seven (7) days.

The rented oximeter device must have battery backup, alarm systems, memory, and the capacity to print downloaded oximeter readings.

PRE-CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT FOR OXIMETER DEVICE FOR MEASURING BLOOD OXYGEN LEVELS NON-INVASIVELY

Effective for dates of service on or after October 23, 2008 the following procedure codes for an oximeter device will require pre-certification for MO HealthNet participants:

- E0445EPRR: Oximeter device for measuring blood oxygen levels non-invasively

CONVERSION OF APPROVED PRIOR AUTHORIZATION REQUESTS FOR (E0445EPRR)

Currently, coverage of the oximeter device requires an approved prior authorization request for reimbursement of services. Prior authorization requests that are submitted and approved prior to October 23, 2008 will be converted to a pre-certification. Please note all oximeter devices are subject to rent-to-purchase requirements regardless of the existence of an approved prior authorization/pre-certification request.

Requests for the oximeter device must meet the clinical edit criteria established by the MO HealthNet Division (MHD). The criteria for an oximeter device (E0445) is posted on the MHD Web site.

Any oximeter currently being rented by MO HealthNet for twelve (12) or more months is considered purchased. No further rental payments will be made. One non-disposable probe per twelve (12) month period or 1 disposable probe per sixty (60) day period is allowed per participant for oximeters that have been purchased. All oximeters being rented will include probes, cables, repair, education, maintenance, and periodic downloading of recorded data, as requested by the participant's physician.

REIMBURSEMENT OF AN OXIMETER DEVICE FOR SHORT-TERM OR OVERNIGHT TESTING

Starting October 23, 2008, MO HealthNet will no longer cover the E0445EPNU for one day testing. This service will be covered as a rental (E0445EPRR) according to the above criteria for short-term or overnight use. This service must be requested via the pre-certification process.

INITIATING PRE-CERTIFICATION REQUESTS FOR DME

Pre-certification of DME is a two-step process. Requests for pre-certification must be initiated by an authorized DME prescriber who writes prescriptions for items covered under the DME Program. Authorized DME prescribers include physicians, podiatrists, and nurse practitioners who have a collaborative practice agreement with a physician that allows for prescription of such items. The enrolled DME provider will access the pre-certification initiated by the prescriber to complete the second step of the pre-certification process. All requests must be approved by the MHD. Providers are encouraged to sign up for the MO HealthNet Web tool –

[CyberAccessSM](#) - which automates the pre-certification process. To become a CyberAccessSM user, contact the ACS-Heritage help desk toll free at 1-888-581-9797 or 573-632-9797 or send an e-mail to <mailto:MOHealthNetCyberaccess@heritage-info.com>.

The CyberAccessSM tool allows each pre-certification to automatically reference the individual participant's claim history, including ICD-9 diagnosis codes and CPT procedure codes. Requests for pre-certification will also be taken by the MO HealthNet call center at 800-392-8030. Requests for pre-certification must meet medical criteria established by the MHD in order to be approved. [Medical criteria](#) is published in [provider bulletins](#) and posted on the [MHD Web site](#) prior to implementation. If a pre-certification request submitted through CyberAccessSM is denied, providers may click on the box to have a MO HealthNet call center representative contact them. The call center is available Monday through Friday, from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, excluding state holidays.

PLEASE NOTE: An approved pre-certification request does not guarantee payment. The provider must verify participant eligibility on the date of service using the Interactive Voice Response (IVR) System at (573) 635-8908 or by logging onto the MO HealthNet Internet Web portal at www.emomed.com.

Provider Bulletins are available on the MO HealthNet Division (MHD) (Formerly the Division of Medical Services) Web site at <http://dss.mo.gov/mhd/providers/pages/bulletins.htm>. Bulletins will remain on the Provider Bulletins page only until incorporated into the [provider manuals](#) as appropriate, then moved to the Archived Bulletin page.

MO HealthNet News: Providers and other interested parties are urged to go to the MHD Web site at <http://dss.missouri.gov/mhd/global/pages/mednewssubscribe.htm> to subscribe to the electronic mailing list to receive automatic notifications of provider bulletins, provider manual updates, and other official MO HealthNet communications via E-mail.

MO HealthNet Managed Care: The information contained in this bulletin applies to coverage for:

- MO HealthNet Fee-for-Service
- Services not included in MO HealthNet Managed Care

Questions regarding MO HealthNet Managed Care benefits should be directed to the patient's MO HealthNet Managed Care health plan. Before delivering a service, please check the patient's eligibility status by swiping the red MO HealthNet card or by calling the Interactive Voice Response (IVR) System at 573-635-8908 and using Option One for the red or white card.

Provider Communications Hotline
573-751-2896