

## PROVIDER BULLETIN

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### DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

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#### **DMEPOS COMPETITIVE BIDDING**

Effective January 1, 2011, Medicare will implement a competitive bidding program in 9 communities, including the Missouri/Kansas Competitive Bidding Area (CBA), for certain Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics and Supplies (DMEPOS). For Medicare beneficiaries whose permanent residence, as determined by Medicare, is in 1 of the 9 metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) affected by the first phase of this program, only contract suppliers will be eligible to provide competitive bid items and receive payment from Medicare. Complete information on the competitive bidding process can be found on the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) website at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/DMEPOSCompetitiveBid/>.

Effective January 1, 2011, MO HealthNet will align policy with Medicare for dual eligible participants who reside in the Missouri/Kansas CBA. If Medicare denies reimbursement for a DME competitively bid service that was provided to a participant by a non-contract or non-demonstration supplier, the service is not covered by MO HealthNet and must not be billed to MO HealthNet for reimbursement.

In addition, the participant is not liable for payment unless the non-contract supplier in a CBA has informed the beneficiary in writing prior to receiving the item that there would be no Medicare or MO HealthNet coverage due to the supplier's contract status, and that the participant understands that he/she will be liable for all costs that the non-contract supplier may charge the participant for the item.

**WHEELCHAIRS, ACCESSORIES AND REPAIR FOR NURSING FACILITY PARTICIPANTS**

Custom wheelchairs, accessories and repairs for dual eligible participants residing in a nursing facility will remain covered regardless of residence in a CBA. Submission for reimbursement will remain unchanged.

**Provider Bulletins** are available on the MO HealthNet Division (MHD) 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**