MEDICARE DMEPOS SUPPLIER STANDARDS

Note: This is an abbreviated version of the supplier standards every Medicare DMEPOS supplier must meet in order to obtain and retain their billing privileges. These standards, in their entirety, are listed in 42 C.F.R. 424.57(c).

1. A supplier must be in compliance with all applicable Federal and State licensure and regulatory requirements.
2. A supplier must provide complete and accurate information on the DMEPOS supplier application. Any changes to this information must be reported to the National Supplier Clearinghouse within 30 days.
3. A supplier must have an authorized individual (whose signature is binding) sign the enrollment application for billing privileges.
4. A supplier must fill orders from its own inventory, or contract with other companies for the purchase of items necessary to fill orders. A supplier may not contract with any entity that is currently excluded from the Medicare program, any State health care programs, or any other Federal procurement or non-procurement programs.
5. A supplier must advise beneficiaries that they may rent or purchase inexpensive or routinely purchased durable medical equipment, and of the purchase option for capped rental equipment.
6. A supplier must notify beneficiaries of warranty coverage and honor all warranties under applicable State law, and repair or replace free of charge Medicare covered items that are under warranty.
7. A supplier must maintain a physical facility on an appropriate site and must maintain a visible sign with posted hours of operation. The location must be accessible to the public and staffed during posted hours of business. The location must be at least 200 square feet and contain space for storing records.
8. A supplier must permit CMS or its agents to conduct on-site inspections to ascertain the supplier's compliance with these standards.
9. A supplier must maintain a primary business telephone listed under the name of the business in a local directory or a toll free number available through directory assistance. The exclusive use of a beeper, answering machine, answering service or cell phone during posted business hours is prohibited.
10. A supplier must have comprehensive liability insurance in the amount of at least $300,000 that covers both the supplier's place of business and all customers and employees of the supplier. If the supplier manufactures its own items, this insurance must also cover product liability and completed operations.
11. A supplier is prohibited from direct solicitation to Medicare beneficiaries. For complete details on this prohibition see 42 CFR § 424.57 (c) (11).
12. A supplier is responsible for delivery of and must instruct beneficiaries on the use of Medicare covered items, and maintain proof of delivery and beneficiary instruction.
13. A supplier must answer questions and respond to complaints of beneficiaries, and maintain documentation of such contacts.
14. A supplier must maintain and replace at no charge or repair cost either directly, or through a service contract with another company, any Medicare-covered items it has rented to beneficiaries.
15. A supplier must accept returns of substandard (less than full quality for the particular item) or unsuitable items (inappropriate for the beneficiary at the time it was fitted and rented or sold) from beneficiaries.
16. A supplier must disclose these standards to each beneficiary it supplies a Medicare-covered item.
17. A supplier must disclose any person having ownership, financial, or control interest in the supplier.
18. A supplier must not convey or reassign a supplier number; i.e., the supplier may not sell or allow another entity to use its Medicare billing number.
19. A supplier must have a complaint resolution protocol established to address beneficiary complaints that relate to these standards. A record of these complaints must be maintained at the physical facility.

20. Complaint records must include: the name, address, telephone number and health insurance claim number of the beneficiary, a summary of the complaint, and any actions taken to resolve it.
21. A supplier must agree to furnish CMS any information required by the Medicare statute and regulations.
22. All suppliers must be accredited by a CMS-approved accreditation organization in order to receive and retain a supplier billing number. The accreditation must indicate the specific products and services, for which the supplier is accredited in order for the supplier to receive payment for those specific products and services (except for certain exempt pharmaceuticals).
23. All suppliers must notify their accreditation organization when a new DMEPOS location is opened.
24. All supplier locations, whether owned or subcontracted, must meet the DMEPOS quality standards and be separately accredited in order to bill Medicare.
25. All suppliers must disclose upon enrollment all products and services, including the addition of new product lines for which they are seeking accreditation.
26. A supplier must meet the surety bond requirements specified in 42 CFR § 424.57 (d).
27. A supplier must obtain oxygen from a state-licensed oxygen supplier.
28. A supplier must maintain ordering and referring documentation consistent with provisions found in 42 CFR § 424.516(f).
29. A supplier is prohibited from sharing a practice location with other Medicare providers and suppliers.
30. A supplier must remain open to the public for a minimum of 30 hours per week except physicians (as defined in section 1848(j) (3) of the Act) or physical and occupational therapists or a DMEPOS supplier working with custom made orthotics and prosthetics. MEDICARE DMEPOS SUPPLIER STANDARDS DMEPOS suppliers have the option to disclose the following statement to satisfy the requirement outlined in Supplier Standard 16 in lieu of providing a copy of the standards to the beneficiary.

The products and/or services provided to you by (supplier legal business name or DBA) are subject to the supplier standards contained in the Federal regulations shown at 42 Code of Federal Regulations Section 424.57(c). These standards concern business professional and operational matters (e.g. honoring warranties and hours of operation). The full text of these standards can be obtained at http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov. Upon request we will furnish you a written copy of the standards.

PATIENT BILL OF RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITES

To ensure the finest care possible, as a Patient receiving Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and our Pharmacy services, you should understand your role, rights and responsibilities involved in your own plan of care.

Patient Rights:

- To select those who provide you with DME and Pharmacy services
- To receive the appropriate or prescribed services in a professional manner without discrimination relative to your age, sex, race, religion, ethnic origin, sexual preference or physical or mental handicap
- To be treated with friendliness, courtesy and respect by each and every individual representing our Pharmacy, who provided treatment or services for you and be free from neglect or abuse, be it physical or mental
- To assist in the development and preparation of your plan of care that is designed to satisfy, as best as possible, your current needs, including management of pain
- To be provided with adequate information from which you can give your informed consent for commencement of services, the continuation of services, the transfer of services to another health care provider, or the termination of services To express concerns, grievances, or recommend modifications to your DME and Pharmacy services, without fear of discrimination or reprisal
- To request and receive complete and up-to-date information relative to your condition, treatment, alternative treatments, risk of treatment or care plans
- To receive treatment and services within the scope of your plan of care, promptly and professionally, while being fully informed as to our Pharmacy's policies, procedures and charges
- To request and receive data regarding treatment, services, or costs thereof, privately and with confidentially
- To be given information as it relates to the uses and disclosure of your plan of care
- To have your plan of care remain private and confidential, except as required and permitted by law

Patient Responsibilities

- To provide accurate and complete information regarding your past and present medical history
- To agree to a schedule of services and report any cancellation of scheduled appointments and/or treatments
- To participate in the development and updating of a plan of care
- To communicate whether you clearly comprehend the course of treatment and plan of care
- To comply with the plan of care and clinical instructions
- To accept responsibility for your actions, if refusing treatment or not complying with, the prescribed treatment and services
- To respect the rights of Pharmacy personnel
- To notify your Physician and the Pharmacy with any potential side effects and/or complications

ASSIGNMENT OF BENEFITS (MEDICARE ONLY)

- I assign the right and responsibility to the pharmacy to bill on my behalf, and accept payment for Medicare DMEPOS products and services provided to me, the Beneficiary.
- I understand that I am responsible to pay any deductible amount applied to the claims and the coinsurance, which is 20 percent of the allowable or approved charge for a product or service.
- I permit the pharmacy to release and collect my health information, and other information, as required (and as permitted by the HIPAA Regulations) from my health are providers and Medicare receiving payment from Medicare.
- I understand that this form will be maintained and made available to Medicare or its representatives.