

November 2009

Dear Physician:

Suppliers of durable medical equipment, prosthetics, orthotics, and supplies (DMEPOS) are partners in caring for your patient(s). Effective, April 5, 2010, DMEPOS suppliers will not receive payment from Medicare for the items that are ordered if you do not have a current enrollment in the Medicare Provider Enrollment, Chain and Ownership System (PECOS). This could result in your patient not receiving the item or being held financially liable. Help your DMEPOS supplier continue to provide quality service to your patients by promptly enrolling in PECOS if you have not already done so, or updating your Medicare enrollment if you haven't done so since November 2003.

For any DMEPOS item to be covered by Medicare, it must be ordered by a physician or nonphysician practitioner who is eligible to order such items. Physicians and nonphysician practitioners must be enrolled in the Medicare PECOS and must be indicated in the system as the type/specialty eligible to order DMEPOS items for Medicare beneficiaries.

The providers who can order DMEPOS items include—

Doctor of:

- Medicine or osteopathy
- Dental medicine or dental surgery
- Podiatric medicine
- Physician assistant
- Certified clinical nurse specialist
- Nurse practitioner
- Optometry

Physicians and nonphysician practitioners who are enrolled in the Medicare Program who have not updated their enrollment by submitting a complete CMS-855I enrollment application since 2003 or have not reported their National Provider Identifier (NPI) to their designated contractor/local carrier, but plan on ordering DMEPOS items for their patients are required to submit a Medicare enrollment application (i.e., Internet-based PECOS or the CMS-855I) as an initial application. If physicians or nonphysician practitioners have any questions concerning the enrollment process, they should contact their designated Medicare contractor/local carrier in advance of submitting the CMS-855I.

For additional information regarding the Medicare enrollment process, including Internet-based based PECOS, go to <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareProviderSupEnroll> on the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Web site.

Sincerely,

Adrian M. Oleck, M.D.  
Medical Director, Jurisdiction B DME MAC