

Medicare Durable Medical Equipment Overview

Medicare covers home medical equipment. Claims for these items fall into categories such as Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies (DMEPOS). They are separated from other Medicare Part B claims and processed through one of the four carriers known as the Durable Medical Equipment Regional Carrier (DMERC). Your Region B DMERC is AdminaStar Federal located in Indianapolis, Indiana.

In order for Medicare to Pay for Durable Medical Equipment (DME);

It must...

1. Withstand repeated use
2. Be reasonable and necessary
3. Be used to serve a medical purpose
4. Be appropriate for use in the home and
5. Be ordered by a physician

.....to be covered!

Below is a list of examples for some of the DMEPOS items that may be covered. This is NOT a complete listing:

Durable Medical equipment includes canes, crutches, walkers, commode chairs, blood glucose monitors and related supplies, wheelchairs, hospital beds, home oxygen equipment, ventilators, aspirators, and suction pumps.

Prosthetic devices replace all or part of the function of an internal organ. Examples include corrective lenses (only after cataract surgery), artificial limbs, and eyes.

Orthotic items correct or prevent physical deformities. Examples include leg, arm, and neck braces.

Below is a list of examples of some of the DME items NOT covered. This is NOT a complete listing:

Exercise equipment	surgical stockings	Wigs	Hearing aids
Home or vehicle ramps	Adult diapers	Bath aids	Air conditioners
Stair lifts			

General Tips about Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies (DMEPOS):

- Medicare pays 80% of the Medicare allowed amount; you pay the 20% coinsurance amount or your secondary will pay the 20%.
- On non-assigned claims, you owe the balance due after Medicare pays
- Ask your supplier if they accept Medicare assignment