

Update on Durable Medical Equipment Utilization Review (UR) Edits

Overview

DME providers should avoid duplicate billing of procedure codes with the same therapeutic intent.

- Billing should be consistent with rules on bundling and unbundling components of rentals and new equipment.
- Specific coverage and billing rules are published in the DME Provider Manual, Policy Section and Procedure Code Section:

<http://www.emedny.org/ProviderManuals/DME/index.html>

Payment Accuracy

The Division of Provider Relations and Utilization Management recently completed a six month payment accuracy review of DME claims. The results of the review indicate some DME providers have submitted claims for reimbursement for duplicative and excessive services. The most common examples are **unbundling of parts included in the payment for new equipment**:

- Batteries when providing a new power wheelchair (p.56 DME Procedure Codes, 8/09).
- Seatbelt and height adjustable armrests when providing a new manual wheelchair (p.51 DME Procedure Codes, 8/09).

Implementation of UR Edits

To improve payment accuracy, additional UR edits have been developed and will be set to a deny status effective April 1, 2010.

- The claims edit message for a UR edit denial is **Edit 00715**: *claim line conflicts with a previously paid service*.
- UR edit limits are designed to accommodate medically indicated clinical situations and allow payment accordingly.
- In the unusual circumstance when a beneficiary's medical need justifies additional services beyond limits, providers may submit a prior approval request to override a UR edit denial. Documentation of medical necessity must be included with the prior approval request.
- Replacement of a part covered under warranty is not payable by Medicaid.

Questions

- For information on specific claims submissions, adjustments, voids and denials, contact the eMedNY Call Center at (800) 343-9000.
- For information on coverage and billing rules relating to DME UR edit denials, see your DME Provider Manual (link above).
- For information on prior approval requests, call Medical Prior Approval at (800) 342-3005, option 1.