



**CIGNA Government
Services**

December 14, 2009

Dear Physician:

Based upon requirements set forth in the Social Security Act section 1833(q) CMS is expanding claim edits for Ordering/Referring Providers for Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics and Supplies; second phase effective April 5, 2010:

The suppliers of durable medical equipment, prosthetics, orthotics, and supplies (DMEPOS) will not receive payment from Medicare for items that are ordered if you do not have current enrollment in the Medicare Provider Enrollment, Chain and Ownership System (PECOS). Not being enrolled affects your partners greatly; and could result in your patient not receiving the item or services needed or potentially being held financially responsible. Please help the DMEPOS suppliers 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 have not done so since November 2003.

For any DMEPOS item to be covered by Medicare, it must be ordered by a physician or a practitioner who is eligible to order such items. Physicians or practitioners must be enrolled in PECOS and must be indicated in the system as specialty eligible to order DMEPOS items for Medicare beneficiaries, please reference (SSA section 186(r) and 1842 (b)(18)(c)).

The providers who can order DMEPOS items include:

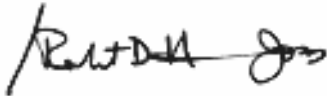
- Doctor of medicine
- Doctor of osteopathy (including osteopathic practitioner) - must be licensed to practice medicine and surgery
- Doctor of dental surgery or dental medicine
- Chiropractor
- Doctor of podiatry or surgical chiropody
- Doctor of optometry
- Physicians assistant
- Certified clinical nurse specialist

- Nurse Practitioner

Physicians and non-physician practitioners who are enrolled in the Medicare Program who have not updated their enrollment (completing a CMS 855I or after March 2009 the CMS 855S) application since 2003 or have not reported their NPI to their designated contractor/local carrier, that plan on ordering DMEPOS items for their patients are required to submit an application. If physicians or non-physician practitioners have any questions or concerns regarding the application process they should contact their local Medicare contractor. To obtain additional information go to:

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNattersArticles/downloads/MM6421.pdf>, or
<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareProviderSupEnroll> on the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services Web site.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Hoover, Jr.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Robert D. Hoover, Jr., MD, MPH, FACP
Medical Director
Jurisdiction C DME MAC