

Fact Sheet: Proposed Policies for the Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program (MDPP) Expanded Model for the Calendar Year (CY) 2025 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (PFS)

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS) MDPP is an evidence-based behavioral intervention that aims to prevent or delay the onset of type 2 diabetes for eligible Medicare beneficiaries diagnosed with prediabetes. MDPP is a non-pharmacological behavioral intervention consisting of up to 22 intensive sessions furnished over 12 months by a trained Coach. MDPP sessions adhere to a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) approved National Diabetes Prevention Program (National DPP) curriculum.¹ CDC administers a national quality assurance program recognizing eligible organizations that furnish the National DPP through its evidence-based Diabetes Prevention Recognition Program (DPRP) Standards,² which are updated every 3 years. CDC replaced the 2021 DPRP Standards with the 2024 DPRP Standards, effective June 1, 2024.³

The Public Health Emergency (PHE) for COVID-19 prompted changes to allow virtual delivery of MDPP, among other changes (85 FR 84830 through 84841). Changes finalized to MDPP in the CY 2024 PFS final rule included a simplified payment structure to allow for fee-for-service (FFS) payments for beneficiary attendance while retaining the performance-based payments for diabetes risk reduction (that is, weight loss) (88 FR 78818). The CY 2024 PFS final rule also finalized to extend certain PHE flexibilities, including the option to deliver some or all MDPP sessions via distance learning, and for beneficiaries to virtually self-report weight for MDPP distance learning sessions, until December 31, 2027 (88 FR 79241).

Through the CY 2025 PFS proposed rule,⁴ we are proposing to make conforming changes to align with the CDC 2024 DPRP Standards, clarify delivery modes for MDPP make-up sessions, add an option for self-reporting weight for an MDPP distance learning session, add a modifier to help Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) to process same day make-up sessions in MDPP, remove the MDPP bridge payment, and align rule language with previous rulemaking. CMS seeks comment on these proposals.⁵

Make conforming changes to align with the 2024 CDC DPRP Standards

- In section § 410.79(b), we are proposing conforming changes to align with the 2024 CDC DPRP Standards.³ Proposed changes include:
 - Adding a new MDPP term for “in-person with a distance learning component,” to be defined as: “MDPP sessions that are delivered in person by trained Coaches where participants have the option of attending sessions via MDPP distance learning. These sessions must be furnished in a manner consistent with DPRP Standards for in-person and distance learning sessions.” This new term will

¹ <https://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/prevention/resources/curriculum.html>.

² <https://dprp.cdc.gov/Registry>.

³ Centers for Disease Control & Prevention Diabetes Prevention Recognition Program: Standards and Operating Procedures. May 1, 2021. <https://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/prevention/pdf/dprp-standards.pdf>.

⁴ CY 2025 PFS proposed rule: <https://www.federalregister.gov/public-inspection/2024-14828/medicare-and-medicaid-programs-calendar-year-2025-payment-policies-under-the-physician-fee-schedule>

⁵ Comments can be submitted at <https://www.regulations.gov/>. If commenting, refer to file code CMS-1807-P.

replace the current MDPP “combination delivery” term. Adding this term will allow MDPP suppliers to streamline data reporting to CDC because they will only have to maintain one CDC DPRP recognition code when they are furnishing in-person and distance learning MDPP sessions.

- Adding the MDPP term “combination with an online component” and revising the current MDPP “online delivery” definition; however, we are also confirming that these delivery modes cannot currently be used for MDPP session delivery.
- We are also proposing to amend § 410.79(d)(1) to clarify that MDPP make-up sessions can only be furnished using distance learning and in-person delivery modes, in alignment with the CY 2024 PFS final rule (85 FR 84830 through 84841).
- Finally, we are clarifying that Extended flexibilities under § 410.79(e)(3)(iii) and (iv) only apply to MDPP suppliers that have and maintain either CDC’s “in-person” or the new “in-person with a distance learning component” DPRP codes.

Update to self-reporting weight for an MDPP distance learning session

- We are also proposing to amend § 410.79(e)(3)(iii)(C) in response to comments that beneficiaries are unable to take a picture while standing on their home scales due to risk of injury and physical health limitations (88 FR 79249). We are proposing revised language to specify that a beneficiary can self-report their weight for an MDPP distance learning session by sending 2 (two) date-stamped photos: one with their weight on the digital scale and one of the beneficiary visible in their home.

Add a HCPCS modifier for reporting a make-up session held on the same day as a regularly scheduled MDPP session

- At §414.84(c)(4), we are proposing to add that MDPP suppliers must append an existing claim modifier (Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) Modifier 79) to any claim for G9886 or G9887, to indicate a make-up session that was held on the same day as a regularly scheduled MDPP session. This proposed change will facilitate MACs in processing claims for same day make-up sessions in MDPP. The CY 2018 PFS final rule permits an MDPP beneficiary to have one make-up session on the same day as a regularly scheduled session and for a beneficiary to have one make-up session per week (82 FR 53360), consistent with CDC 2024 DPRP Standards.³

Remove MDPP bridge payment

- We are proposing to remove the MDPP bridge payment in § 414.84(a), (d), and (e) because this payment is no longer necessary in MDPP’s FFS payment structure finalized in the CY 2024 PFS final rule (88 FR 79241).

Align rule language with previous rulemaking

- Finally, we are proposing to make minor edits throughout C.F.R. sections § 410.79, § 424.205, and § 414.84 to update outdated references and align with previous rulemaking pertaining to MDPP terminology, payment structure, and requirements. Please see the proposed rule⁶ for a complete list of the proposed edits.