



Quarterly Update for the Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies (DMEPOS) Competitive Bidding Program (CBP) - April 2021

MLN Matters Number: MM12128

Related Change Request (CR) Number: 12128

Related CR Release Date: January 20, 2021

Effective Date: April 1, 2021

Related CR Transmittal Number: R10565CP

Implementation Date: April 5, 2021

PROVIDER TYPES AFFECTED

This MLN Matters Article is for providers and suppliers submitting claims to the Durable Medical Equipment (DME) Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) for Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics and Supplies (DMEPOS) items or services Medicare pays for using the DMEPOS fee schedule.

PROVIDER ACTION NEEDED

Medicare updates the DMEPOS Competitive Bidding Program (CBP) files on a quarterly basis to implement necessary changes to Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) codes, ZIP codes, single payment amounts, and supplier files. CR12128 provides specific instruction for implementing the DMEPOS CBP files.

BACKGROUND

Congress mandated the DMEPOS CBP through the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003. The statute required that Medicare replace the current fee schedule payment methodology for selected DMEPOS items with a competitive bidding process. The intent is to improve the effectiveness of Medicare's method for setting DMEPOS payment amounts, which will reduce beneficiary out-of-pocket expenses; and save the Medicare program money while ensuring beneficiary access to quality items and services.

In implementing the DMEPOS CBP, CMS issues update notifications on a quarterly basis. CR 12128 gives the DME MACs the latest update instructions. CMS makes available the competitive bidding files to the DME MACs and the Pricing, Data Analysis and Coding (PDAC) contractor.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The official instruction, CR 12128 issued to your DME MAC regarding this change is available at <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/r10565CP.pdf>.

If you have questions, your DME MAC may have more information. Find their website at <http://go.cms.gov/MAC-website-list>.

For more CBIC information, see <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/DMEPOSCompetitiveBid/index.html>

DOCUMENT HISTORY

Date of Change	Description
February 23, 2021	Initial article released.

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