

# Key Message and Tips for Beneficiaries: Durable Medical Equipment



## Message

If you have a medical need that requires medical equipment or supplies in your home, Medicaid may cover the cost. Durable Medical Equipment (DME) may be supplied to you if you get home health services or home and community-based waiver services (HCBS).[1] Your health care provider must approve the equipment or supplies needed and must review that need at least once a year.[2]

## TIPS

Follow these tips to avoid making mistakes if you need DME:

- Know that DME may only be authorized by licensed, qualified, Medicaid-approved health care providers;
- Know that your health care provider can only authorize DME that is medically necessary;
- Know that your health care provider must review your need for DME at least once a year;
- Be wary of people selling medical equipment over the phone, door-to-door, at health fairs or other public spaces;
- Keep your Medicaid card in a safe place;
- Do not give your Medicaid number out over the phone unless you know the person you are speaking to;
- Never sign a blank form; and
- Get a copy of everything you sign.

For information about the services in your area, visit <http://www.medicaid.gov/Medicaid-CHIP-Program-Information/By-State/By-State.html> for a link to your State Medicaid Agency.

For more information about Medicaid Program Integrity, visit <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare-Medicaid-Coordination/Fraud-Prevention/Medicaid-Integrity-Education/edmic-landing.html> on the CMS Medicaid Program Integrity Education website.

Follow us on Twitter  [#MedicaidIntegrity](https://twitter.com/MedicaidIntegrity)



## **Disclaimer**

This document was current at the time it was published or uploaded onto the web. Medicaid and Medicare policies change frequently so links to the source documents have been provided within the document for your reference.

This document was prepared as a service to the public and is not intended to grant rights or impose obligations. This document may contain references or links to statutes, regulations, or other policy materials. The information provided is only intended to be a general summary. Use of this material is voluntary. Inclusion of a link does not constitute CMS endorsement of the material. We encourage readers to review the specific statutes, regulations, and other interpretive materials for a full and accurate statement of their contents.

September 2015

1 Services: General Provisions, 42 C.F.R. § 440. Retrieved June 9, 2015, from <http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/retrieveECFR?gp=&SID=1e6177cca4313ab926fa8d2a4302108c&mc=true&n=pt42.4.440&r=PART&ty=HTML>

2 Home Health Services, 42 C.F.R. § 440.70 Retrieved June 9, 2015, from <http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=e8fc386c61abf3fc11a176e9ee077368&node=42:4.0.1.1.9.1.112.9&rgn=div8>