

DMEPOS ACCREDITATION 101

Sandra Bastinelli, MS, RN
Nannette Hardouin, BSN, RN
Alisa Overgaard, MS, RD
OFM/PIG/DMRE



STATUTORY AUTHORITY

- Section 302(a)(1) of the MMA added Section §1834(a)(20) to the Act, which requires the Secretary to establish and implement quality standards for suppliers of DMEPOS
- Section §1847(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Act requires DMEPOS suppliers to meet the quality standards before being awarded a contract under the Medicare DMEPOS Competitive Bidding Program

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

- Section §1834 (a)(20)(D) of the Act requires that CMS apply these quality standards to suppliers of the following items for which we deem the standards to be appropriate
 - (i) Covered items defined in 1834 (a)(13);
 - (ii) Prosthetic devices, orthotics and prosthetics described in section 1834(h)(4);
 - and

COVERED ITEMS

(iii) Items and services describe in section 1842(s)(2)

- Medical supplies
- Home dialysis supplies & equipment
- Therapeutic shoes
- Parenteral & enteral nutrients
- Electromyogram devices
- Salivation devices
- Blood products
- Transfusion medicine
- Prosthetic devices & orthotics

NON-COVERED ITEMS

- Does not include
 - Medical supplies furnished by Home Health Agencies
 - Drugs used with DME (inhalation drugs and drugs infused with a DME pump)
 - Other Part B drugs
 - Immunosuppressive drugs
 - Anti-emetic drugs

DMEPOS QUALITY STANDARDS

- All DMEPOS suppliers must comply with the quality standards in order to retain a supplier billing number and to receive Medicare Part B payment
- Section §1834(a)(20)(E) of the Act, states that the quality standards shall be published on the CMS' Internet website
- The DMEPOS Quality Standards are posted on our website at:

www.cms.hhs.gov/medicareprovidersupenroll

- **Section One**: Business Standards
 - Apply to all DMEPOS suppliers
 - Focuses on:
 - Administration
 - Financial Management
 - Human Resource Management
 - Consumer Services
 - Performance Management
 - Product Safety
 - Information Management

- **Section Two:** Supplier Product-Specific Service Requirements
 - Focus on the product specialization of the supplier and provides details of supplier service standards

DMEPOS QUALITY STANDARDS

- The three Appendices are:
 - Appendix A: Respiratory Equipment, Supplies, and Services
 - Appendix B: Manual Wheelchairs and PMD, including Complex Rehab and Assistive Technology
 - Appendix C: Custom Fabricated, Custom Fitted, Custom-Made Orthotics, Prosthetic Devices, Somatic, Ocular and Facial Prosthetics, and Therapeutic Shoes and Inserts

ACCREDITING ORGANIZATIONS

- There are 10 Accrediting Organizations (AOs) that have been deemed on November 2006 to accredit DMEPOS suppliers using CMS' quality standards
- The AOs are listed under the Medicare Provider Enrollment website at:
www.cms.hhs.gov/medicareprovidersupenroll

ACCREDITATION PROCESS

PRE-APPLICATION PROCESS

- A DMEPOS supplier that wishes to become accredited should contact the AOs and obtain information about each organization's accreditation process
- The supplier should review the information and choose the organization to which it will apply

ACCREDITATION PROCESS

PRE-APPLICATION PROCESS

- The AO will assist the supplier to determine what changes will be required to meet the accreditation standards (modify existing services, practices, developing appropriate policies and procedures, develop an implementation plan, timeline, and training employees)
- The supplier should apply for accreditation after the changes are in place or during implementation

ACCREDITATION PROCESS

APPLICATION REVIEW & ON-SITE SURVEY

- The supplier submits a completed application to the AO with all the supporting documentation
- The AO reviews the application and documentation (verify licensures, organizational chart, etc.)
 - Average review period is 4-6 months
- Conducts an unannounced on-site survey
- The AO will determine whether to accredit the supplier based on the submitted data and the results of the on-site survey

SURVEY PROCESS POLICY

- The unannounced on-site survey will be performed, at least, every 3 years
- Accreditation cannot be transferred upon merger, acquisition or sale. CMS, the NSC and the AO must be notified

DMEPOS SUPPLIER DEADLINES

- March 1, 2008: DMEPOS suppliers must be accredited if a completed, enrollment application was not submitted to the NSC
- January 1, 2009: Accreditation deadline for DMEPOS suppliers who submit an enrollment application to the National Supplier Clearinghouse (NSC) between January 1 & February 29, 2008
- September 30, 2009: Date by which all DMEPOS suppliers will have to become accredited

DMEPOS Accreditation Team



Nannette Hardouin, BSN, RN
nannette.hardouin@cms.hhs.gov

Alisa Overgaard, MS, RD
alisa.overgaard@cms.hhs.gov

Sandra Bastinelli, MS, RN
sandra.bastinelli@cms.hhs.gov