

## HOW WILL THIS NEW PROGRAM SAVE ME MONEY?

Since the amount Medicare pays will be less, your 20% coinsurance will be less too. You are still required to meet your annual Part B deductible. If you suspect that you have been charged more coinsurance than allowed by Medicare, call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048. Or, call the Fraud Hotline of the HHS Office of Inspector General at 1-800-447-8477. TTY users should call 1-800-377-4950. If you live in Florida, call Medicare's Florida fraud hotline at 1-866-417-2078.

## WHAT IF I AM CURRENTLY RENTING OR OWN MEDICAL EQUIPMENT?

If you currently rent certain medical or oxygen equipment, you may be able to stay with your current supplier even if that supplier isn't a contract supplier. Check with your supplier to see if they decided to become a "grandfathered" supplier. A "grandfathered" supplier is a supplier who chooses to continue to rent equipment to you and accepts the new payment rates under the competitive bidding program for the equipment.

If you already own medical equipment, you can use any Medicare-approved supplier for repairs. Before your equipment is serviced, make sure the supplier is Medicare-approved so the service may be covered. If your equipment needs to be replaced and is listed in this brochure, you must use a Medicare contract supplier for Medicare to pay.

## NEED HELP?

- Talk to your doctor, other health care provider, or supplier for questions about equipment and supplies.
- For free health insurance counseling and personalized help with these changes, call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP). Visit [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov), or call 1-800-MEDICARE for their telephone number.



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# Durable Medical Equipment and Supplies

A new program to save you money  
and ensure quality services

SAVE MONEY AND ENSURE QUALITY

## HOW DOES MEDICARE'S NEW COMPETITIVE BIDDING PROGRAM AFFECT YOU?

If you have Original Medicare and need certain medical equipment or supplies (like a walker or a power wheelchair), you should know about a new Medicare program. It will save you and Medicare money; ensure that you get quality medical equipment, supplies, and services; and help limit fraud and abuse in the Medicare Program.

This new program starts on January 1, 2011, in the 9 areas listed on the next page and will expand to additional areas in the future. Medicare is using the competition in the local marketplace to determine how much you and Medicare will pay for medical equipment and supplies. As a result, your payment for these equipment and supplies will be lower than what you pay now.

## WHAT DO I NEED TO DO NOW?

1. Find out now if you live in a ZIP code that is included in this new program.
2. Find out which suppliers are Medicare contract suppliers to make sure Medicare will help pay for your medical products and services.
3. Find out this information by doing the following:
  - Visit [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) on the web.
  - Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

For more information, read the fact sheet "What You Should Know if You Need Medicare-covered Equipment or Supplies" by visiting [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov).



## WHERE IS THIS NEW PROGRAM AVAILABLE?

If you live in or plan to visit certain ZIP codes in the areas listed below, you will almost always have to use a supplier that contracts with Medicare when you buy or rent certain equipment or supplies for Medicare to pay. This program doesn't affect which doctors or hospitals you can use.

- **California**—Riverside, San Bernardino, Ontario
- **Florida**—Miami, Fort Lauderdale, Pompano Beach
- **Florida**—Orlando, Kissimmee
- **Missouri and Kansas**—Kansas City
- **North and South Carolina**—Charlotte, Gastonia, Concord
- **Ohio**—Cleveland, Elyria, Mentor
- **Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana**—Cincinnati, Middletown
- **Pennsylvania**—Pittsburgh
- **Texas**—Dallas-Fort Worth, Arlington



**Important:** If you live in one of the areas listed and continue to use a non-contract supplier for items listed above after January 1, 2011, you will be asked to sign an Advance Beneficiary Notice (ABN). A non-contract supplier is a supplier who isn't participating in this new program. It means Medicare usually won't pay for the item or service, and you may be responsible for paying the entire cost.

## WHAT KINDS OF ITEMS ARE INCLUDED?

This new program includes the following items:

- Oxygen, oxygen equipment, and supplies
- Standard power wheelchairs, scooters, and related accessories
- Complex rehabilitative power wheelchairs and related accessories (Group 2)
- Mail-order diabetic supplies
- Enteral nutrients, equipment, and supplies
- Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) devices and Respiratory Assist Devices (RADs) and related supplies
- Hospital beds and related accessories
- Walkers and related accessories
- Support surfaces (Group 2 mattresses and overlays) in Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and Pompano Beach, Florida only