Bulletin



January 9, 2012

Changes for DME and O&P providers

Effective January 1, 2012, Minnesota Statutes Section 256B.0625 requires that Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and Orthotic & Prosthetic (O&P) providers be enrolled as Medicare providers if the provider provides services to individuals enrolled in Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP). This includes members enrolled in Blue Advantage (PMAP, MinnesotaCare and Minnesota Senior Care Plus) and SecureBlueSM (HMO SNP). Enrollment in Medicare requires that providers accept Medicare's assignment of claims and payment for services. According to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), DME and O&P providers are enrolled as Medicare providers after their Medicare enrollment application has been completed and approved by Medicare.

Minnesota Statutes Section 256B.0625, subd. 31 reads, in part, as follows: "Medical supplies and equipment... (b) Vendors of durable medical equipment, prosthetics, orthotics, or medical supplies must enroll as a Medicare provider."

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota and Blue Plus (Blue Cross) participating providers agree to comply with all applicable state and federal laws, rules, regulations, orders and requirements. Therefore, all DME and O&P participating providers who provide services/products to MHCP and Medicare members must be enrolled with Medicare per Minnesota Statutes Section 256B.0625.

In addition to the changes noted above, Blue Cross requires all DME and O&P providers to begin submitting the ordering and referring provider information via loop 2420E in the electronic transaction.

Questions?

If you have questions, please contact provider services at (651) 662-5200 or toll free at 1-800-262-0820.

Bulletin P2-12 Distribution: provider specialty KD and KE