



Rental limitation change for large volume air compressors

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota and Blue Plus (Blue Cross) currently list durable medical equipment items that are considered “rental only” in its Provider Policy & Procedure Manual. Blue Cross will be revising this list to exclude large volume air compressors, HCPCS code E0565, effective for claims received on and after August 23, 2010. The following change will be published in the Provider Policy & Procedure Manual located on **providers.bluecrossmn.com**. The Durable Medical Equipment rental guidelines noted below do not apply to Government Program claims.

Blue Cross Provider Policy & Procedure Manual, Chapter 11, Coding Policies and Guidelines, Durable Medical Equipment (DME):

DME rental guidelines

Most DME can only be rented for 10 months. DME is considered purchased after 10 months of rental payments. Ten months of rental for a particular item equals the Blue Cross allowed amount for the purchase price of that item. No additional claims for rental or purchase of the same item should be submitted after the Blue Cross allowed amount for the purchase price of that item has been met.

The following items are rental only:

- ventilators
- negative pressure ventilators
- CPM machines
- oximeters
- large volume air compressors (**Note: Effective for claims received on and after August 23, 2010, large volume air compressors will no longer be a “rental only” item. E0565 will be considered purchased after 10 months of rental.**)
- airway pressure monitors oxygen concentrators

Coding requirements reminder

All coding and reimbursement is subject to changes, updates, or other requirements of coding rules and guidelines. All codes are subject to federal HIPAA rules, and in the case of medical code sets (for example, HCPCS, CPT, ICD-9-CM), only valid codes for the date of service may be submitted or accepted.

Questions?

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