

PROVIDER QUICK POINTS

PROVIDER INFORMATION



August 1, 2017

Durable Medical Equipment Cures Act

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) released a memorandum to all Managed Care Organizations (which includes Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota and Blue Plus) to make retroactive reimbursement adjustments for Durable Medical Equipment (DME) providers servicing non-bid areas as required by Section 16007 of the 21st Century Cures act that was signed into law December 13, 2016.

This legislation requires changes to the July and October 2016 fee schedule amounts for certain items. Section 1834(a)(1)(F)(ii) of the Social Security Act (the Act) mandates adjustments to the fee schedule amounts for certain DME items furnished on or after January 1, 2016, in areas that are not competitive bid areas, based on information from competitive bidding programs for DME.

The DME fee schedule for certain DME items will be implemented as follows:

- From January 1, 2016 to June 30, 2016, the DME fee schedule was a 50/50 blend (50% competitive bid pricing and 50% Standard DME Fee Schedule pricing) for certain DME items furnished in the noncompetitive bid areas.
- Effective July 1, 2016, the fee schedule amount for the non-bid areas will revert to 100 % of the adjusted payment amounts determined by the competitive bid information.

Product Impacted

All Platinum Blue and SecureBlue claims for Medicare covered services.

Claims Reprocessing

DME claims for certain DME items for July 1, 2016, to December 31, 2016, will be reprocessed in accordance with the Medicare fee schedule. The reprocessing will impact certain DME codes for Platinum Blue and SecureBlue products. The impacted DME claims will be reprocessed with the new fee schedule. DME suppliers should not resubmit claims. No further action is required from providers at this time.

Additional Information

To learn more about the Cures Act, refer to the CMS website:

<https://www.cms.gov/Center/Provider-Type/Durable-Medical-Equipment-DME-Center.html>:

Questions?

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