



Durable Medical Equipment (DME) Coverage

Use this link to access the most current DME list along with coverage details :

<https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/durable-medical-equipment-dme-coverage>

Medicare Part B (Medical Insurance) covers medically necessary DME if the healthcare provider prescribes it for use in the patient's home.

DME that Medicare covers includes, but isn't limited to:

- Blood sugar meters
- Blood sugar strips
- Canes
- Commode chairs
- Continuous passive motion devices
- Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) devices
- Crutches
- Hospital beds
- Home infusion services
- Infusion pumps & supplies
- Lancet devices & lancets
- Nebulizers & nebulizer medications
- Oxygen equipment & accessories
- Patient lifts
- Pressure reducing support surfaces
- Suction pumps
- Traction equipment
- Walkers
- Wheelchairs & scooters

Costs in Original Medicare

After the Part B Deductible is met, the beneficiary (patient) pays 20% of the Medicare-Approved Amount (if the supplier accepts assignment).

Medicare pays for different kinds of DME in different ways for beneficiaries. Depending on the type of equipment:

- You may need to rent the equipment.
- You may need to buy the equipment.
- You may be able to choose whether to rent or buy the equipment.

Medicare will only cover the DME if the patient's providers and DME suppliers are enrolled in Medicare. Providers and suppliers have to meet strict standards to enroll and stay enrolled in Medicare. If the providers or suppliers aren't enrolled, Medicare won't pay the claims they submit.

Make sure the providers and DME suppliers are enrolled in Medicare. It's also important to ask a supplier if they participate in Medicare before you get DME. If suppliers are participating in Medicare, they must accept assignment (which means, they can charge the patient only the coinsurance and Part B deductible for the Medicare-approved amount). If suppliers aren't participating and don't accept assignment, there's no limit on the amount they can charge the patient.

What it is

DME meets these criteria:

- Durable (can withstand repeated use)
- Used for a medical reason
- Not usually useful to someone who isn't sick or injured
- Used in your home
- Generally, has an expected lifetime of at least 3 years

Things to know

If you live in an area that's been declared a disaster or emergency, the usual rules for medical care may change for a short time. Learn more about how to replace lost or damaged equipment in a disaster or emergency at the link provided above.

Note:

To find out how much the test, item, or service will cost, talk to the health care provider or billing specialist in your organization. The specific amount the patient will owe may depend on several things, like:

- Other insurance they may have
- How much their provider charges
- If the provider accepts assignment
- The type of facility
- Where you get your test, item, or service