

### MCG message

**Title:** Reversal of temporary COVID-19 durable medical equipment, prosthetics, orthotics and medical supplies policies

**Posting date:** 11/7/2022

**Summary:** On November 1, 2022, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services issued a bulletin indicating the intent to reverse portions of the temporary COVID-19 durable medical equipment policies prior to the end of the Public Health Emergency.

Effective December 1, 2022, MDHHS will end portions of temporary policies prior to the end of the PHE. Temporary policies impacted by this bulletin include: [MSA 20-14](#), [MSA 20-25](#), [MSA 20-32](#), [MSA 20-35](#), and [MSA 20-62](#).

MDHHS indicated in the bulletin that the implementation of the reversals will begin in the following stages:

#### **Stage 1 – Effective December 1, 2022**

- Pre-pandemic documentation requirements restored (e.g., certificates of medical necessity, documentation timelines, lab tests, etc.).
- Restore prior authorization of walking boots, wheelchair batteries, blood pressure monitors, enteral formula and supplies, parenteral formula and supplies, home infusion and supplies, incontinence products, catheters and ostomy products.
  - Providers will no longer submit invoices for manually priced items through the *Document Management Portal*. Submit invoices to the *Program Review Division* or the *Telephone Prior Authorization Contractor*, as applicable (refer to the [MDHHS Medicaid Provider Manual](#)).
  - Temporary fees applied during the PHE will revert to pre-PHE rates (e.g., labor units will be removed from the wheelchair battery Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System codes).
- Restore PA for replacement of DMEPOS items.
- End coverage of hand sanitizer (HCPCS A9286). Due to the high volume of recalls and counterfeit products identified by the U.S. Food & Drug Administration regarding hand sanitizer and the continued suggestion from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that washing hands with soap and water is the



most effective means to prevent the spread of contaminants, MDHHS is ending coverage of hand sanitizers.

**Stage 2 – Effective January 1, 2023**

- Restore PA of medical supplies, diabetic supplies, surgical dressings, wound supplies, respiratory and tracheostomy supplies.
- Pre-pandemic documentation requirements restored (e.g., CMNs, documentation timelines, lab tests, etc.)
- End coverage of spirometers for home use (such services are included in outpatient clinic services).

To access full details of the reversal of temporary COVID-19 DME, Prosthetics, Orthotics and DMEPOS policies, visit [Michigan.gov](https://www.michigan.gov).

If you have any questions, contact your Blue Cross Complete provider account executive or Blue Cross Complete Provider Inquiry at **1-888-312-5713**.

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