

### HOW WILL THIS NEW PROGRAM SAVE ME MONEY?

Since the amount Medicare pays will be less, your 20% coinsurance will be less too. You are still required to meet your annual Part B deductible. If you suspect that you are paying more coinsurance than the Medicare-allowed amount, you can call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048. Or, call the Fraud Hotline of the HHS Office of Inspector General at 1-800-447-8477. TTY users should call 1-800-377-4950.

### WHAT IF I AM CURRENTLY RENTING OR OWN MEDICAL EQUIPMENT?

If you currently rent certain medical or oxygen equipment, you may be able to stay with your current supplier even if that supplier isn't a contract supplier. Check with your supplier to see if they decided to become a "grandfathered" supplier.

If you already own medical equipment, you can use any Medicare-approved supplier for repairs or replacement parts. Before your equipment is serviced, make sure the supplier is Medicare-approved so the service is covered. If you need to replace your medical equipment and that equipment is listed in this brochure, you must use a Medicare contract supplier for Medicare to provide payment.

### NEED HELP?

- Talk to your doctor, other health care provider, or supplier for questions about equipment and supplies.
- For free health insurance counseling and personalized help about these changes, call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP). Visit [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) on the web, or call 1-800-MEDICARE for their telephone number. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

*My Health.  
My Medicare.*

[www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov)



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## Durable Medical Equipment and Supplies

You may have to change  
your supplier soon!

SAVE MONEY AND ENSURE QUALITY

CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

## DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

### WHAT IS MEDICARE'S NEW PROGRAM FOR GETTING CERTAIN MEDICAL EQUIPMENT OR SUPPLIES?

If you have Original Medicare and need certain medical equipment or supplies (like a walker or a power wheelchair), you should know about a new Medicare program. It will save you and Medicare money; ensure that you get quality medical equipment, supplies, and services; and help limit fraud and abuse in the Medicare Program.

This new program starts on July 1, 2008, in the 10 areas listed on the next page. It will expand to 70 additional areas in 2009. Medicare is using the competition of the local marketplace to determine how much you and Medicare will pay for medical equipment and supplies. As a result, your payment for these equipment and supplies will be lower than what you pay now.

### WHAT DO I NEED TO DO NOW?

Find out now if your ZIP code is included in this new program. Then, starting in May 2008, find out which suppliers are Medicare-contract suppliers to make sure your medical products and services will be covered by Medicare. There are two ways to find this information:

- Visit [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) on the web.
- Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

For more information, read the fact sheet "What You Should Know if You Need Medicare-covered Equipment or Supplies" by visiting [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) on the web. Under "Search Tools," select "Find a Medicare Publication."



### WHAT AREAS ARE AFFECTED BY THIS NEW PROGRAM?

If you live in or plan to visit certain ZIP codes in the areas listed below, you will need to use a supplier that contracts with Medicare when you buy or rent certain equipment or supplies for Medicare to provide payment. This program doesn't affect which doctors or hospitals you can use.

- **California**—Riverside, San Bernardino, Ontario
- **Florida**—Miami, Fort Lauderdale, Miami Beach
- **Florida**—Orlando, Kissimmee
- **Missouri and Kansas**—Kansas City
- **North and South Carolina**—Charlotte, Gastonia, Concord
- **Ohio**—Cleveland, Elyria, Mentor
- **Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana**—Cincinnati, Middletown
- **Pennsylvania**—Pittsburgh
- **Puerto Rico**—Caguas, Guaynabo, San Juan
- **Texas**—Dallas-Fort Worth, Arlington



### WHAT KINDS OF ITEMS ARE INCLUDED?

This new program includes the following items:

- Oxygen supplies and equipment\*
- Standard power wheelchairs, scooters, and related accessories
- Certain types of power wheelchairs and related accessories \*
- Mail-order diabetic supplies
- Enteral nutrients, equipment, and supplies\*
- Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) devices and Respiratory Assist Devices (RADs) and related supplies
- Hospital beds and related accessories\*
- Negative pressure wound therapy pumps and related supplies and accessories\*
- Walkers and related accessories
- Support surfaces (certain mattresses and overlays) in Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and Miami Beach only

*\* Not included in Puerto Rico*

**Important:** If you live in one of the areas listed, and continue to use a non-contract supplier for items listed above after July 1, 2008, you will be asked to sign an Advance Beneficiary Notice (ABN). A non-contract supplier is a supplier who isn't participating in this new program. It means Medicare probably won't pay for the item or service, and you may be responsible for paying the entire cost of the item or service.