



PROVIDER INFORMATION NOTICE

Los Angeles County
Board of Supervisors

Hilda L. Solis
First District

Mark Ridley-Thomas
Second District

Sheila Kuehl
Third District

Janice Hahn
Fourth District

Kathryn Barger
Fifth District

Population Health Management
1000 S. Fremont Ave.
Bldg. A-9 East, 6th Floor
Alhambra, CA 91803-8859
Tel: (626) 525-5789

Amy Luftig Viste
Program Director
My Health LA

To ensure access to high-quality, patient-centered, cost-effective health care to Los Angeles County residents through direct services at DHS facilities and through collaboration with community and university partners.

PIN: 18 – 09
TITLE: Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and Medical Supplies
DATE: December 3, 2018

In accordance with the My Health LA (MHLA) 2.33 of the Agreement, this Provider Information Notice (PIN) is intended to provide you with details regarding your contractual obligations for providing DME and medical supplies to MHLA Participants.

DEFINITION OF DME AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES:

Durable Medical Equipment (DME) is equipment, devices or appliances prescribed by a licensed practitioner to meet the patient’s medical needs and which also meet the following requirements:

- 1) Can withstand repeated use;
- 2) Is used to serve a medical purpose;
- 3) Is not useful to the patient in the absence of an illness, injury, functional impairment or congenital anomaly; and
- 4) Is appropriate for use in the patient’s home.

Medical supplies are generally single use items that are employed in course of medical care.

MHLA expects Contractors to follow this guidance related to DME and medical supplies with MHLA Participants, with the understanding that DME and medical supplies are not routinely given.

CRITERIA

In order for the Contractor to be obligated to provide DME or medical supplies to MHLA Participants, all of the following criteria must be met:

- 1) The DME or medical supply must be related to Included Services provided by the Contractor;
- 2) The DME or medical supply must be medically necessary;
- 3) The DME or medical supply must be ordered or recommended by a Provider working at Contractor’s approved MHLA sites listed in Exhibit J, MHLA Site Profile; and
- 4) The DME or medical supply is not solely requested by the Participant without the Provider’s agreement on its necessity.



www.dhs.lacounty.gov

The following medical supplies and DME meeting the criteria above will be provided to MHLA Participants by MHLA Contractors:

- Basic wound care supplies;
- Bandages (i.e. Ace bandages);
- Soft braces (not for fractures), splints, slings and soft cervical collars;
- Canes;
- Crutches;
- Home monitoring equipment or supplies for diabetes-related conditions;
- Walkers; and
- Nebulizers/Nebulizer supplies.

Contractors are **NOT** expected to provide the following DME and medical supplies to MHLA Participants:

- DME and medical supplies that are needed for custodial use, or patient convenience or comfort or when requested by a patient but where medical necessity is not established;
- DME and medical supplies that are ordered by Providers who do not work at Contractor's approved MHLA sites listed in Exhibit J, MHLA Site Profile (it is not the responsibility of Contractor to pay for DME and medical supplies ordered by a DHS specialist for any MHLA Participant);
- DME and medical supplies that are not related to the care or treatment provided by the Contractor;
- Home monitoring equipment or supplies (other than for diabetes-related conditions)-e.g. home blood pressure (BP) monitoring, scales, etc.;
- Wheelchairs;
- Hospital beds;
- Continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) machines and supplies;
- Bilevel Positive Airway Pressure (BiPAP or BPAP) machines and supplies;
- Incontinence supplies, such as diapers and undergarments;
- Commode, such as shower chairs and grab bars;
- Surgical leggings and compression stockings;
- Casts and braces for fractures; or
- Adjustable orthopedic braces.

Contractor may provide used DME to MHLA Participants so long as they are safe and in good, working conditions.

Contractor may loan the DME to MHLA Participants with the expectation that it will be returned to the clinic when it is no longer needed.

Contractor is not required to provide the DME or medical supplies at the same visit at which it is ordered, unless immediate access to the DME or medical supply is medically required. However, DME and medical supplies must be provided within a reasonable period of time.

DME and medical supplies may be provided directly by Contractor, or through arrangements made by Contractor with third parties, so long as there is no cost to the MHLA Participant.

If you have any questions, please contact your Program Advocate.



Amy Luftig Viste
Program Director, My Health LA