GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Department of Health Care Finance

Office of the Deputy Director-Medicaid

Transmittal 15-38

TO: DME Providers, ICF/IID Providers and Service Coordinators

FROM: Claudia Schlosberg, J.D.
Senior Deputy Director and State Medicaid Director

Laura Nuss, Director
Department on Disability Services

DATE: OCT 8 2015

SUBJECT: Payments for Durable Medical Equipment (DME), Prosthetic, Orthotic, and Supplies in ICF/IIDs

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The purpose of this transmittal is to clarify the Department of Health Care Finance's policies regarding reimbursement for certain items of Durable Medical Equipment (DME), Prosthetics, Orthotics and Supplies for people who are residing in an ICF/IID, the steps DHCF has taken to ensure that claims are paid in accordance with policy and to provide guidance to DME suppliers and ICF/IID operators regarding the procedures to be used should a claim be denied that should have been paid by DHCF. Under 29 DCMR 4100.7(f) , the rates paid to ICF/IIDs do not include durable medical equipment, prosthetic, orthotic, and supply items that either require prior authorization or are solely for the use of one (1) person (such as a wheelchair). This provision is intended to ensure that DHCF and not the ICF/IID, pays for customized items and items that cost more than $500 that are not routinely supplied by an ICF/IID.

Several months ago, DHCF and the Department on Disability Services (DDS) learned that a number of items that should have been prior authorized on the District's Fee Schedule were not. These items included certain hospital beds, Hoyer lifts, wheelchairs and wheel chair accessories and some parts. At that time, we directed ICF/IID providers to contact Cavella Bishop, Program Manager of the Division of Clinician, Pharmacy and Acute Provider Services for assistance. Ms. Bishop worked with individual providers and also created a list of codes that have been updated on the fee schedule to correctly reflect the requirement of a prior authorization. Additional codes that subsequently have been identified will be updated with an effective date of November 1, 2015.

DHCF and DDS are committed to ensuring that people who reside in an ICF/IID receive all medically necessary services and equipment without undue delay. While DHCF has attempted to update the fee schedule for all items that should be prior authorized, we anticipate that there may be some codes that will be missed. In the event a supplier's claim for an item of DME is erroneously denied for an individual in an ICF/IID, we are asking that the supplier contact Cavella Bishop at 202-274-8926 or email Cavella.Bishop@dc.gov, or Kelly-Ann.Daniels at 202-442-4650 or email Kelly-Ann.Daniels@dc.gov for assistance. DHCF will review the denial promptly, reverse it as appropriate and will update the fee schedule if a prior authorization is needed.

If you have any questions related to this transmittal update, please contact Cavella Bishop at 202-724-8936 or Cavella.Bishop@DC.gov.

CC: Sumita Chaudhuri, Deputy Director, Medicaid Finance
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