PAYMENT INFORMATION FOR BGM

In consultation with Department of Medical Assistance Services staff, we are able to provide the following guidance related to Medicaid coverage criteria for the auto-retractable safety lancets:

All Medicaid recipients residing in assisted living facilities (ALF) should have their own supplies ordered through a durable medical equipment (DME) company, as they would if living at home. If an ALF is assisting the resident to obtain supplies and wants to use the same DME company for all their recipients that is ok as long as the resident has no objections. However, each recipient should have his own supplies based on his individual needs.

The ALF should let the DME company know what supplies are needed and what quantities based on frequency of use. For example, the ALF should notify the DME that the recipient's blood sugar is tested 4 x per day. That way the DME provider can take that number and determine how many will be supplied per month.

The DME company will need to get a certificate of medical necessity (CMN) which the doctor will sign. The DME company should know how to take care of all of the paper work and documentation requirements.

If the recipient has a primary insurance, the DME will bill the primary insurance first. If the primary insurance does not cover an item but Medicaid does, in this case single use lancets, the DME company will then bill Medicaid. If the DME company is not sure how to do this or has questions they can contact the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS).

For Medicare, since we know that Medicare does not currently cover single use lancets, the DME provider does not have to bill Medicare for the denial they can attached a short letter to the claim stating they know this item is non-covered by Medicare.

If anyone needs additional assistance with this process, please contact the one of the following DMAS staff members:

Elizabeth Flaherty, RN, Healthcare Compliance Specialist II, Long-Term Care Division at 804-786-7953

Barbara Seymour, Healthcare Compliance Specialist II, Long-Term Care Division at 804-786-1835

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Several of the distribution companies who were providing auto-retractable safety lancets to private pay individuals exhausted their supplies, raised prices significantly in response to increasing demand or simply no longer deal directly with the consumers. Families in one locality did the legwork to locate a supplier who had adequate/acceptable stock and good prices. While we are not endorsing this, or any other specific provider, we are supplying the company information for individuals and/or facilities who may wish to follow-up for themselves:

Diabetic Health and Wellness

Website link http://diabetichealthandwellness.com/

phone # 1-800-683-9568

We sincerely hope that this information helps to alleviate the difficulties some of you have had in transitioning to the latest infection control safety quidelines for blood glucose monitoring (copy attached).