



MEDICAL ASSISTANCE BULLETIN

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA • DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE

ISSUE DATE

November 29, 2007

EFFECTIVE DATE

December 1, 2007

NUMBER

24-07-11, 25-07-05
31-07-18

SUBJECT

MA Program Outpatient Fee Schedule Revisions
for Speech Generating Devices

BY


Michael Nardone, Deputy Secretary
Office of Medical Assistance Programs

IMPORTANT REMINDER: All Medical Assistance providers, regardless of method of claims submission will be required to register an NPI number with DPW. Learn more about the registration process and requirements at <http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/Business/NPIinfo/>

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this Medical Assistance (MA) Bulletin is to announce MA Program Outpatient Fee Schedule revisions for select speech generating devices, identified by the following Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) procedure codes E2504, E2506, E2508 and E2510, effective with dates of service on and after December 1, 2007.

SCOPE:

This MA bulletin applies to all prescribers and providers of speech generating devices who are enrolled in the MA Program to provide services to MA recipients under the fee-for-service delivery system. Prescribers and providers of speech generating devices enrolled in the MA Program to provide services to MA recipients under the managed care delivery system should address any billing and prior authorization related questions to the appropriate physical health managed care organization (MCO).

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

Procedure codes E2504, E2506, E2508, and E2510 were added to the MA Outpatient Fee Schedule for services provided on or after October 1, 2005. Providers were notified of the same in MA Bulletin 99-05-15 titled, "2005 HCPCS Updates and Other Revisions to the Medical Assistance Fee Schedule; Prior Authorization Requirements", which was issued September 12, 2005 and effective October 1, 2005.

Some of the speech generating devices that fit the procedure code descriptions contain options that increase their cost. In addition, for some of the procedure codes, there are various models of speech generating devices that are included in the procedure code description, and the prices vary depending on screen size. The MA Program has received 1150 Administrative Waiver (Program Exception) requests seeking increased payment rates for certain models of

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS BULLETIN SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

The appropriate toll-free number for your provider type.
Visit the Office of Medical Assistance Programs website at www.dpw.state.pa.us/omap

speech generating devices. For these reasons, the MA Program is increasing the fee for procedure codes E2504 and E2508, and adding pricing modifiers to the MA Program Outpatient Fee Schedule to be billed with procedure codes E2506 and E2510.

The MA Program has revised the MA Program Outpatient Fee Schedule by increasing the payment for procedure codes E2504 and E2508 and implementing a tiered payment structure for procedure codes E2506 and E2510. It is imperative that prescribers and providers submit the MA-97 Prior Authorization (PA) Form, as well as information to justify the medical necessity for and detailed specifications of the applicable speech generating device. The appropriate tier level payment for procedure codes E2506 and E2510 will be determined by the screen size associated with the speech generating device upon approval of the PA request. Upon approval of the PA request for a speech generating device, the Department will issue a Notice of Decision informing the recipient and provider of the procedure code, modifier and MA payment for the speech generating device.

As a reminder to all prescribers and providers of speech generating devices, the MA Program requirements at Title 55 Pa.Code, Chapter 1101 General Provisions, Section 1101.66(a)(2) relating to payment for rendered, prescribed or ordered services, sets forth that all speech generating devices must be prescribed and medical necessary.

PROCEDURE:

Effective with dates of service on and after December 1, 2007, as set forth below, the MA Program is revising fees and adding modifiers on the MA Program Outpatient Fee Schedule for the following speech generating device procedure codes:

Procedure Code	Definition	MA Fee and Pricing Modifier	
		Current	Effective December 1, 2007
E2504	Speech generating device, digitized speech, using pre-recorded messages, greater than 20 minutes but less than or equal to 40 minutes recording time	\$1,261.94 NU	\$1,419.68 NU
E2506	Speech generating device, digitized speech, using pre-recorded messages, greater than 40 minutes recording time	\$1,850.37 NU	\$2,081.66 NU 6-10 inch diagonal screen
E2506	Speech generating device, digitized speech, using pre-recorded messages, greater than 40 minutes recording time	\$1,850.37 NU	\$2,312.96 U6 11-13 inch diagonal screen

E2508	Speech generating device, synthesized speech, requiring message formulation by spelling and access by physical contact with the device	\$2,861.29 NU	\$3,218.95 NU
E2510	Speech generating device, synthesized speech, permitting multiple methods of message formulation and multiple methods of device access	\$5,414.60 NU	\$2,500.00 U6 Less than 6 inch diagonal screen
E2510	Speech generating device, synthesized speech, permitting multiple methods of message formulation and multiple methods of device access	\$5,414.60 NU	\$6,091.43 NU 6 -10 inch diagonal screen
E2510	Speech generating device, synthesized speech, permitting multiple methods of message formulation and multiple methods of device access	\$5,414.60 NU	\$6,768.25 U7 Over 10 inch diagonal screen

These procedure codes are for purchases of appliances or equipment that cost more than \$600 and therefore require prior authorization under section 443.6(b)(2) of the Public Welfare Code (code) (62 P. S. § 443.6(b)(2)), as amended by the act of July 7, 2005 (P. L. 177, No. 42). Upon approval of the PA request for a speech generating device, the Department will issue a Notice of Decision informing the recipient, prescriber and provider of the assigned procedure code, pricing modifier and MA payment for the speech generating device. Failure of the providers to use the appropriate pricing modifier will result in inappropriate claim payment or claim denial.

Prescribers and providers are to refer to the attached Speech Generating Device Outpatient Fee Schedule, December 1, 2007, when providing services using the national procedure codes included in the attachment. The Speech Generating Device Outpatient Fee Schedule provides information on the National Code, National Code Definition, PROMISe™ Provider Type, Specialty and Place of Service eligible to bill each procedure code, required Pricing Modifier and Informational Modifier, MA Units of Service, Limits/Comments, MA Fee and Prior Authorization Requirements.

Service Limits

As indicated in the Speech Generating Device Outpatient Fee Schedule, the MA Program has established limits for these procedure codes. If the prescriber believes that the established limits cannot meet the recipient’s needs, the prescriber may request a waiver of the limits through the Program Exception process. Detailed information regarding the Program Exception process is located in Section 7 of the Medical Suppliers Provider Handbook. The handbook may be accessed at the following link:

<http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/PartnersProviders/PROMISe/003675041.htm>

Managed Care Delivery System

MCOs are not required to impose the service limits that apply in the fee-for-service delivery system, although they are permitted to do so. MCOs may not impose service limits that are more restrictive than the service limits established in the fee-for-service system. An MCO that chooses to establish service limits must notify network providers of the limits before implementing the limits.

ATTACHMENT:

Speech Generating Device MA Program Outpatient Fee Schedule, December 1, 2007