



Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
201 W. Preston Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Martin O'Malley, Governor – Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor – John M. Colmers, Secretary

MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
Medical Supply and Equipment Transmittal No. 64
May 13, 2009

TO: Disposable Medical Supply and Durable Medical Equipment Providers

FROM: Susan J. Tucker, Executive Director
Office of Health Services

NOTE: Please ensure that the appropriate staff members in your organization are informed of the contents of this transmittal.

RE: COMAR 10.09.12 Disposable Medical Supplies and Durable Medical Equipment

The purpose of this transmittal is:

- a. To provide an update of the Maryland Medical Assistance Program's policy governing payment, utilization limitations and absorbency standards of incontinence supplies;
- b. To provide clarification of the effective date of the regulation changes;
- c. To reiterate the procedure to follow when requests require more than the direct bill allowable; and
- d. To provide clarification for submitting requests for disposable pants and underpads.

On November 7, 2008, the Maryland Medical Assistance Program, through the Maryland Register, posted amendments to Regulations .05, .06, .07 under COMAR 10.09.12 Disposable Medical Supplies and Durable Medical Equipment. The opportunity to comment on these amendments expired December 8, 2008. These amendments have been adopted as proposed. Due in part to the technical corrections to the minimum absorbency standards communicated in this transmittal, the effective date of these amendments will be June 1, 2009.

The regulatory changes are as follows:

- 1) Reimbursement for incontinence supplies has been reduced from 140 percent to 125 percent of the average wholesale price;



- 2) The quantity of incontinence supplies that may be reimbursed without preauthorization for recipients age 16 and older has been reduced from 240 diapers and 135 underpads to 180 diapers and 100 underpads. Quantities beyond these limitations may be preauthorized on a case specific basis;
- 3) Coverage of pull-on type incontinence garments is now limited to recipients who are able to independently put on and remove such garments. Documentation of the recipient's ability to do so independently must be provided; and
- 4) Minimum absorbency standards for disposable incontinence supplies have been established however, the Medical Assistance Program has made technical corrections to the standards printed in the Maryland Register. The corrected standards are attached to this transmittal.

No change has been made to the preauthorization procedures used to obtain authorization for incontinence supplies beyond Program limitations. To assist providers with requests for supplies above the direct bill limitations, the following is provided:

- Disposable pants and underpads for recipients under age three or in excess of the direct bill limit will be preauthorized only when medically necessary. For recipients age 15 and under requiring more than 240 incontinence pants or 135 underpads or recipients age 16 and older requiring more than 180 incontinence pants or 100 underpads in a 30-day period, the recipient's medical condition must be such that the direct bill limit is insufficient.
- For recipients under age three:
 - Authorization of disposable pants and pads will be authorized when the recipient requires care for a disease that is transmitted primarily by blood/blood products and/or body fluids; or
 - A medical condition must exist that necessitates the provision of disposable pants and underpads beyond that which would be considered age-appropriate.
- For recipients needing more than the direct bill allowable:
 - The provider must demonstrate the medical necessity for the additional supplies. The request should include the following on the prescriber's order:
 - The specific medical need for recipients age 15 and under requiring more than 240 disposable pants or 135 underpads or for recipients age 16 and older requiring 180 disposable pants or 100 underpads per month; and
 - The approximate daily urine voidance.
- For recipients requiring coverage of pull-on type garments:
 - The provider must demonstrate the medical necessity for pull-on type garment. Additionally, medical documentation demonstrating the recipient's capability of independently putting on and removing the garment is required.

For all requests, current physician orders must be maintained per 42 CFR §440.70. Documentation of the provision of these supplies to prevent institutionalization and of the recipient's incontinence must be maintained.

Questions regarding this transmittal should be directed to the Division of Community Support Services at (410) 767-1739.

Attachment

The absorbent capacity standards must meet, at a minimum, the following:

ABSORBENCY RATES - 2009

Children's Diapers		Youth Size Diapers		Adult Diapers			
T4529	T4530	T4533	T4521	T4522	T4523	T4524	T4543
small/medium	large	youth	Small	Medium	Large	XL	Bariatric
500cc	600cc	750cc	1200cc	1750cc	2000cc	2000cc	2000cc
Children's Underwear							
Children's Underwear		Youth Size Underwear		Adult Underwear			
T4531	T4532	T4534	T4525	T4526	T4527	T4528	T5999
Small/Medium	Large	Youth	Small	Medium	Large	XL	Bariatric
500cc	550cc	600cc	850cc	850cc	900cc	1000cc	1350cc