

# Understanding Competitive Bidding Impact on Non-Invasive Ventilators

## What is Competitive Bidding?

Medicare wants to restart a flawed program called “Competitive Bidding” that sets rates for home medical equipment (HME) & supplies by awarding a few contracts to the HME suppliers who bid the lowest – regardless of the true costs of providing quality care. In the past, this excluded 75% of suppliers from being able to provide care for end users & resulted in 37% HME locations closing across the country, leaving end users with fewer choices, longer wait times, or no access at all. After pausing the program due to problems, Medicare wants to restart it with changes that would make access even worse. Since many Medicaid programs & other insurers follow Medicare’s lead, this could impact everyone who needs home medical equipment nationwide. **If you or a loved one use HME & supplies, submit comments via the QR code below to voice concerns on the proposed rule for the new round of the bid program by the 8/29/25 deadline.**

## How Does This Affect Access to Life-Sustaining Non-Invasive Ventilators (NIV)?

***Complex respiratory conditions require expertise, stability, & trust – not bidding experiments that could lead to life-threatening gaps in care.***

NIVs are used by people with serious respiratory conditions who require constant support. These life-sustaining devices demand expert fitting, training, servicing, and round-the-clock support for end user safety. Medicare previously removed NIV from a previous CBP round in response to overwhelming concern from external groups on access to care and the COVID-19 public health emergency. Since then, Medicare issued a new policy for NIV that has not been implemented; including NIV in CBP would layer instability into an already complex transition for clinicians and HME suppliers.

### How this Affects You:

*Disruptions in access to critical, life-sustaining respiratory care*

*Increased risks of respiratory failure, hospitalizations, or death if therapy is interrupted*

*Fewer suppliers with the expertise needed to provide proper monitoring and support*

*Contracts may be awarded to companies who have no NIV experience*

*Loss of long-standing relationships with trusted respiratory care suppliers*

### SUBMIT COMMENTS - DUE 8/29

Scan QR Code for Medicare comment page  
Follow Prompts to “Submit a Public Comment”

*Share what access to life-sustaining non-invasive ventilators & support from your trusted supplier mean to you. Explain your concerns with expanding Competitive Bidding to ventilators.*

SCAN HERE

