DMEPOS ePrescribing

It's time to "Destroy the Fax" when ordering DME.

The Durable Medical Equipment Prosthetics, Orthotics and Supplies (DMEPOS) industry is supporting a strategic initiative to help clinicians adopt DMEPOS ePrescribing. The benefits of DMEPOS ePrescribing are (1) to enable clinicians to efficiently capture the required clinical criteria by payer at the point-of-care, (2) reduce the back and forth that exists between clinicians and DMEPOS suppliers, (3) enable transparency into whether a patient's insurance plan covers the DMEPOS ordered for the patient, and (4) provide visibility into the order delivery status.

The DMEPOS industry is unified behind DMEPOS ePrescribing as it enables clinicians to have a more efficient and reliable ordering process and provides patients with greater confidence that they will receive the care they need.

Why is AAHomecare promoting ePrescribing?

With multiple DMEPOS ePrescribing platforms in the market, the time has come for change. AAHomecare aims to eliminate the current antiquated ordering processes by using DMEPOS ePrescribing to upgrade the experience for clinicians.

As the broader healthcare industry grapples with increased costs due to inflation, a tough labor environment, and the increased risk of audits, clinicians need a solution to lower the cost of doing business to support patient needs.

AAHomecare is the industry's national association for DMEPOS providers. The issue is that the orders sent by clinicians from Electronic Medical Records (EMRs) lack the coverage criteria in the specific, structured format that payers require. As a result, the onus falls on DMEPOS suppliers to analyze the clinical data to assess whether a patient meets the coverage criteria established by their health plan.

This process is slow, tedious, costly, and does not support the current needs of clinicians who want accelerated discharges, and visibility into home-based care. AAHomecare therefore supports the widespread adoption of DMEPOS ePrescribing platforms as the solution to align the clinical data collected with the payer requirements.

Why doesn't my EMR solve this?

Despite clinicians using an EMR system, DMEPOS orders sent from the EMR typically utilize fax-based technology and are received by the supplier in an electronic-Fax (eFax) or email form.

A clinician's current EMR ordering process (Fax/eFax-based) does not validate whether the clinical data that exists in the EMR aligns with the payer's requirements. As a result, DMEPOS providers go back and forth with clinicians to ensure the payer's requirements are met before they can deliver the items and services to the patient. This delays deliveries for patients and creates a bottleneck for clinicians.

DMEPOS ePrescribing platforms solve this problem by giving the clinician a platform at the point-of-care to document all of the clinical coverage criteria by payer, which accelerates a supplier's ability to accept an order and deliver the needed products.

Why start implementing DMEPOS ePrescribing now?

CMS finalized the interoperability and prior authorization rule CMS-0057, which has created more urgency in making DMEPOS ePrescribing a strategic priority. The rule states that EMRs and payers will need to support integration capabilities, which will accelerate the adoption of DMEPOS ePrescribing.

AAHomecare is at the forefront of embracing these changes and encouraging our members to start the adoption and implementation process. It is crucial that we communicate with all referral sources– including health systems, clinical groups, post-acute organizations – emphasizing the need to implement DMEPOS ePrescribing. The change process takes time for configuration and implementation, so it is important to start this process now to prepare for the upcoming regulatory changes.

While DMEPOS ePrescribing platforms can be used as a standalone platform, there is also the opportunity to integrate these platforms directly into your EMR. You can work with the DMEPOS ePrescribing vendors on your optimal implementation method.

How can clinical groups sign up?

Clinical groups can contact the following DMEPOS ePrescribing vendors to obtain more information about each of the unique platforms through educational materials, webinars, and demonstrations. More information on integration capabilities and pricing can be obtained from each of the vendors.

- **Brighttree**: leads@Brighttree.com
- **DMEScripts**: support@dmescripts.com
- **Parachute Health**: sales@parachutehealth.com
- **Tomorrow Health:** dmeservices@tomorrowhealth.com