

Industry Terms & Acronyms

April '26

50/50 Blend	Blended reimbursement rate based off of 50% of Medicare's unadjusted fee schedule and 50% Competitive Bidding-derived rates
75/25 Blend	Blended reimbursement rate based off of 25% of Medicare's unadjusted fee schedule and 75% Competitive Bidding-derived rates
90/10 Blend	Blended reimbursement rate based off of 10% of Medicare's unadjusted fee schedule and 90% Competitive Bidding-derived rates
AAH	American Association for Homecare (also known as AAHomecare)
AAHomecare	American Association for Homecare (also known as AAH)
AASM	American Academy of Sleep Medicine
ABN	Advanced Beneficiary Notice of Noncoverage
ACHA	Florida Agency for Health Care Administration (covers FL Medicaid)
ACMESA	Atlantic Coast Medical Equipment Services Association
ADL	Activities of Daily Living
ADMEA	Alabama Durable Medical Equipment Association
AdvaMed	Advanced Medical Technology Association
AHIP	America's Health Insurance Plans
AHRQ	Agency for Healthcare Research & Quality
ALJ	Administrative Law Judge (3rd level of appeal via ALJ or adjudicator at the Office of Medicare Hearings & Appeals)
AMEP	Arkansas Medical Equipment Providers
ARP	American Rescue Plan (also known as American Rescue Plan Act or ARPA)
Assignment (Taking Assignment)	When a supplier accepts the Medicare-approved amount as full payment for covered services
ATHOMES	Association for Tennessee Home Oxygen & Medical Equipment Services (now under ACMESA)
ATP	Assistive Technology Professional
AWP	Any Willing Provider
B&F	Brown & Fortunato
BCBS	BlueCross BlueShield
Big Sky AMES	Big Sky Association of Home Medical Equipment Suppliers
BiPAP	Bilevel positive airway pressure
BoD	Board of Directors
CAMES	Colorado Association for Medical Equipment Services
CAMPS	California Association of Medical Product Suppliers
CARES	Coronavirus Aid Relief & Economic Security Act (also known as CARES Act)
CB	Competitive Bidding (also known as Competitive Bidding Program or CBP)
CBAs	Competitive Bidding Areas
CBIC	Competitive Bidding Implementation Contractor
CBO	Congressional Budget Office
CBO Score	Congressional Budget Office's fiscal impact analysis
CBP	Competitive Bidding Program (also known as Competitive Bidding or CB)
CERT	Comprehensive Error Rate Testing (Type of Auditor)
CGM	Continuous Glucose Monitor
CGS	CGS Administrators (oversees Medicare DME MAC jurisdictions B and C)
CHEST	American College of Chest Physicians
CHF	Congestive Heart Failure
CHIP	Children's Health Insurance Program

CMN	Certificate of Medical Necessity
CMR	Cathy McMorris Rodgers (House Representative)
CMS	Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
CoB	Close of Business
COGS	Cost of Goods Sold
Committees of Jurisdiction	Ways & Means Committee, Energy & Commerce Committee, and Senate Finance Committee (jurisdiction over health care issues)
COPD	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
CoS	Chief of Staff
CPAP	Continuous Positive Airway Pressure
CPI-U	Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers
CPPC	Corporate Partner Providers Council (AAH)
CPT Code	5 digit numeric code used in professional medical billing
CQRC	Council for Quality Respiratory Care
CR	Continuing Resolution (temporary funding measure by Congress)
CRMC	Complex Rehab & Mobility Council (AAH)
CRT	Complex Rehab Technology
CRUSH	Comprehensive Regulations to Uncover Suspicious Healthcare initiative by HHS
CURES	21st Century Cures Act (also known as CURES Act)
DD	Dobson & DaVanzo
DLC	Diabetes Leadership Council
DME	Durable Medical Equipment (also known as HME or Home Medical Equipment)
DME MACs	DME Medicare Administrative Contractors (also known shorthand as the MACs)
DMEPOS	Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, & Supplies
DoD	Department of Defense (now called Department of War)
DoW	Department of War
DPAC	Diabetes Patient Advocacy Coalition
DTAC	Diabetes Technology Access Coalition
Dual Channel	Typically used for diabetes advocacy to have both the DME channel and pharmacy channel for fulfilling CGM orders
Dual Eligible	Individuals who are eligible for Medicare and Medicaid
E&C	Energy & Commerce Committee (House)
EC	Executive Committee
EFT	Electronic Funds Transfer
EoB	Explanation of Benefits
F&A	Fraud & Abuse
F2F	Face to Face
FAHCS	Florida Alliance of Home Care Services
FFS	Fee-For-Service
Final Rule	CMS regulation once finalized
FOIA	Freedom of Information Act
FWA	Fraud, Waste, & Abuse
GAMES	Georgia Association of Medical Equipment Suppliers (now under ACMESA)
GAO	Government Accountability Office
GAP	Grassroots Accountability Project
GR	Government Relations
Great Lakes	Great Lakes Home Medical Services Association
HAH	Healthcare Association of Hawaii
HCPCS	Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (used to bill DME)
HELP	Health Education Labor & Pensions Committee
HH	Home Health

HHA	Home Health Agency
HHS	Department of Health & Human Services
HIPAA	Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act
HME	Home Medical Equipment (also known as DME or Durable Medical Equipment)
HME/RT	Home Medical Equipment & Respiratory Therapy Council (AAH)
HMO	Health Maintenance Organization
HOMES	Home Medical Equipment & Services Association of New England
IC	Intermittent Catheter
ICCRC	Intermittent Catheter Coding Reform Coalition
ICD-10	International Statistical Classification of Diseases & Related Health Problems, 10th Edition
IFR	Interim Final Rule
ITEM Coalition	Independence Through Enhancement of Medicare & Medicaid Coalition
JD-A	DME MAC Jurisdiction A
JD-B	DME MAC Jurisdiction B
JD-C	DME MAC Jurisdiction C
JD-D	DME MAC Jurisdiction D
KMESA	Kentucky Medical Equipment Suppliers Association
KX Modifier	HCPCS modifier used when billing Medicare fee for service when medical coverage criteria are met
LCD	Local Coverage Determination
Lead Item	The specific HCPCS in a product category designated to set allowable for other HCPCS in the same category for Competitive Bidding
LTC	Long Term Care
MACPAC	Medicaid & CHIP Payment & Access Commission
MACs	Medicare Administrative Contractor (also known as DME MACs)
MAMES	Midwest Association for Medical Equipment Services
MAP	Minimum Advertised Price
MAPs	Medicare Advantage Plans
MCIT	Medicare Coverage of Innovative Technology
MCO	Managed Care Organization
MedPAC	Medicare Payment Advisory Commission
MHHA	Michigan HomeCare & Hospice Association
MHPA	Medicaid Health Plans of America
MLN	Medicare Learning Network (also known as MLN Matters)
MNHCA	Maryland-National Capital Homecare Association
MSA	Metropolitan Statistical Area
MSAMES	Mississippi Association of Medical Equipment Suppliers
MSC	Medical Supplies Council (AAH)
NAFC	National Association for Continence
NAMD	National Association of Medicaid Directors
NAMPS	Nevada Association of Medical Products Suppliers
NCART	National Coalition for Assistive & Rehab Technology
NCD	National Coverage Determination
NEMEP	North East Medical Equipment Providers Association
NFIB	National Federation of Independent Business
NIV	Non-Invasive Ventilator
Non-Participating Supplier	Supplier who choose to bill a Medicare FFS claim "assigned" or "non-assigned" on a claim-by-claim basis
Noridian	Noridian Healthcare Solutions (Contractor for Medicare DMEPOS jurisdictions A and D)

NPEAC	National Provider Enrollment Advisory Council
NPI	National Provider Identifier
NRRTS	National Registry of Rehabilitation Technology Suppliers
NSC	National Supplier Clearinghouse
NSCAC	National Supplier Clearinghouse Advisory Committee (now NPEAC)
O2	Oxygen Therapy
OAMES	Ohio Association of Medical Equipment Services
OB3	One Big Beautiful Bill (HR 1 signed into law)
OIG	Office of Inspector General
OIRA	Office of Information & Regulatory Affairs
OMB	Office of Management & Budget
OMEPA	Oklahoma Medical Equipment Providers Association
OMHA	Office of Medicare Hearings & Appeals
OSA	Obstructive Sleep Apnea
OT	Occupational Therapist
OTS	Off the Shelf
PA	Prior Authorization
PA Master List	List of DMEPOS items that may be subject to prior authorization and/or face-to-face encounter and written order prior to delivery
PAMES	Pacific Association for Medical Equipment Services
PAMS	Pennsylvania Association of Medical Suppliers
PAP	Positive Airway Pressure (broader reference to products like CPAP, BiPAP, etc)
Participating Supplier	Supplier who agrees to accept assignment on all Medicare FFS claims
PAYGO	"Pay as you go" budgetary rule to be budget neutral
PBM	Pharmacy Benefit Manager
PECOS Database	Provider Enrollment, Chain, & Ownership System Database
PHE	Public Health Emergency
PIM	Medicare Program Integrity Manual
PMD	Power Mobility Devices
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
PPP	Paycheck Protection Program
PRC	Payer Relations Council (AAH)
Proposed Rule	CMS regulations that are proposed but not finalized
Provider	Company who provides HME (also known as Supplier, HME/DME Provider, or HME/DME Supplier)
Provider	Health care clinician who provides health care services
Provider	Company who provides HME (also known as Supplier, HME/DME Provider, or HME/DME/DMEPOS Supplier)
PT	Physical Therapist
QIC	Qualified Independent Contractor (type of auditor)
RAC	Recovery Audit Contractor (type of auditor)
Reconsideration	2nd Level of appeal to the Qualified Independent Contractor QIC)
Redetermination	1st level of appeal to a DMEPOS Contractor (CGS and Noridian)
Reg C	Regulatory Council (AAH)
RFA	Regulatory Flexibility Act
RFI	Request for Information
RFP	Request for Proposal
RID	Remote Item Delivery
RT	Respiratory Therapist
RUL	Reasonable & Useful Life
SBA	Small Business Administration

SBA	Spina Bifida Association
SCMESA	South Carolina Medical Equipment Services Association
SFC	Senate Finance Committee
SLC	State Leaders Council (AAH)
SMRC	Supplemental Medical Review Contractor (type of auditor)
SNF	Skilled Nursing Facility
SOAR Act	Supplemental Oxygen Access Reform Act
SPA	Single Payment Amount
SPA	State Plan Amendment
SUNA	Society of Urologic Nurses & Associates
Supplier	Company who provides HME (also known as Provider, HME/DME Provider, or HME/DME Supplier) *The Hill and government agencies use "Supplier"
SWMESA	Southwest Medical Equipment Suppliers Association
SWO	Standard Written Order
TAP	Technical Advisory Panel
TEP	Technical Expert Panel
TexMEP	Texas Medical Equipment Providers Association
The Administration	The Cabinet of the White House, including HHS
TPA	Third Party Administrator
TPE	Targeted Probe & Educate (CMS audit program)
UHC	United Healthcare
UOAA	United Ostomy Associations of America
UPIC	Unified Program Integrity Contractors (type of auditor)
USTR	United States Trade Representative
UTMED	Utah Medical Equipment Dealers Association
VBP	Value Based Purchasing
VGM	The VGM Group
W&M	Ways & Means Committee (House)
WC	Wheelchair
WLC	Washington Legislative Conference
WOCN	Wound, Ostomy, and Continence Nurses Society
WOPD	Written Order Prior to Delivery
ZPIC	Zone Program Integrity Contractor (type of auditor)