



18 September 2008

Dear Physician, Supplier, Specialty Group:

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) assigned to the Durable Medical Equipment Medicare Administrative Contractors (DME MACs) the task of developing and updating medical policies for the purpose of processing and reviewing Medicare claims for Durable Medical Equipment, Prostheses, Orthoses and Supplies (DMEPOS). The DME MACs are proposing a new policy for **Heating Pads and Heat Lamps**

We are soliciting comments on this draft policy from physicians, manufacturers, suppliers and other professionals involved in the ordering or provision of these items. We recommend that you send this draft policy to selected members of your organization for review and comment. If you disagree with any aspect of the policy, you should be very specific and, if possible, offer an alternative indication, guideline, etc. You should provide a clinical rationale for your position including references from the published clinical literature (e.g. standard textbooks, peer-reviewed journals, etc.). We would also encourage a written response if you agree with this policy.

When comments of this policy have been received, they will be reviewed and revisions to the policy will be considered. The revised policy will be published in the CMS Medicare Coverage Database and on individual DME MAC websites, allowing for adequate notice before the policy's effective date.

Please submit your comments to each DME MAC medical director by mail at the addresses below no later than November 3, 2008. Comments may also be submitted via e-mail through each DME MAC's web site. In addition, a public meeting for receiving comments will be conducted by each of the DME MACs. Information regarding submission of email comments and the open meeting may be obtained from the DME MAC web sites.

Thank you for your participation in our policy development process.

Sincerely yours,

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