



Unnecessary DMEPOS Accreditation & Surety Bond Requirements

Background

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has implemented accreditation and surety bond requirements for suppliers of durable medical equipment, prosthetics, orthotics and supplies (DMEPOS). The majority of health care providers were exempted from these requirements, with the notable exception of pharmacists. These additional requirements are duplicative and unnecessary.

Impact & Importance

Medicare beneficiaries, particularly the elderly, depend upon their community pharmacies for medical supplies, Part B medications and diabetic testing supplies. Pharmacies provide nearly two-thirds of the diabetic supplies in the country. Many pharmacy providers have indicated they will no longer participate as suppliers in the DMEPOS program due to the excessive and uncompensated cost for accreditation and surety bond requirements. It is essential that patients maintain access to these essential supplies from pharmacy, where they also obtain their medications and are educated on appropriate use.

Action Needed

- Ask your Congressional member to preserve patient access to essential diabetic testing supplies and education.
- Ask your Congressional member to support H.R. 616, sponsored by Rep. Marion Berry (D-AR), and S. 511, sponsored by Sen. Sam Brownback, that would exempt pharmacists, similar to other health care providers from the DMEPOS accreditation requirements.
- Ask your Congressional member to support H.R. 1970, sponsored by Rep. Zack Space (D-OH), and S. 956, sponsored by Sen. John Tester (D-MT), that would exempt pharmacists from the surety bond requirements.