


GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
Department of Health Care Finance



Office of the Director

DHCF Transmittal # 09-10

**TO:** District of Columbia Medicaid Providers of Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics and Supplies (DME/POS)

**FROM:** Julie Hudman, Ph.D.  
Director 

**DATE:** April 28, 2009

**SUBJECT:** Incorrect Use of Miscellaneous "99" HCPCS Codes in Billing for Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics and Supplies (DME/POS)

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The Department of Health Care Finance (DHCF) has become aware that some DME/POS providers, when submitting claims for reimbursement, are using HCPCS "miscellaneous" codes to bill for bundled DME/POS products or to bill for specific DME/POS when a more precise code is available. Such miscellaneous codes include for example: A9999, "Miscellaneous DME supply or accessory, not otherwise specified," and E1399, "Durable medical equipment, miscellaneous." As a reminder, **the use of Miscellaneous HCPCS codes is correct only in the absence of a more specific HCPCS or CPT code.** Providers also must submit the appropriate code for *each* DME/POS requested.

In the coming weeks, DHCF will begin post payment reviews of claims submitted with miscellaneous coding. In addition, upon receipt of any prior authorization request for DME/POS services coded as "miscellaneous," DHCF staff, and any DHCF contractor reviewing prior authorization requests, will direct providers to submit a more precise HCPCS or CPT code, if one exists. If providers are unable to identify a more precise code, DHCF staff or contractors will contact the provider to review how the DME/POS provider searched for a more precise code. If DHCF staff or contractor, working with the DME/POS vendor, verifies that no more precise DME/POS code exists, the miscellaneous code will be accepted for payment. DHCF will only consider reimbursement for HCPCS miscellaneous codes when more precise code(s) are unavailable. Please note that review of DME/POS services coded as miscellaneous services will prolong the prior authorization process.

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**April 28, 2009**

**Page 2**

Knowledge and implementation of correct coding practices is the responsibility of all DC Medicaid providers. Your attention to this will help DHCF to manage the District of Columbia and federal funds that support the Medicaid program. Effective management of these funds allows us to better serve beneficiaries, and also provide appropriate payment to Medicaid providers.

Thank you for your diligence in correctly billing for DME/POS services. Please contact Ms. Gloria Watson in the Office of Utilization Management at 202-442-5814 if you have any questions.

cc: DHCF Office of Utilization Management  
Delmarva Foundation for Medical Care, Inc.