

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
**Department of Health Care Finance**



Office of the Senior Deputy Director/  
Medicaid Director

**Transmittal 20-35**

**TO:** All D.C. Medicaid Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and Fee-for-Service (FFS) Providers

**FROM:** Melisa Byrd  
Senior Deputy Director and State Medicaid Director

**DATE:** October 21, 2020

**SUBJECT: Reimbursement for Medical Equipment, Supplies and Appliances**

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The purpose of this transmittal is to notify durable medical equipment (DME) and fee-for-service providers that DHCF has established Medicaid coverage and reimbursement for medical alert services and devices under the home health benefit of the Medicaid State Plan. Medical alert devices and services will include coverage of personal emergency response system (PERS) devices and services, as well as medication management devices (MMD) and services. Addition of coverage of medical alert devices and services under the State Plan aligns with changes DHCF is proposing to the District's 1915(c) Home and Community Based-Services Waiver for the Elderly and Persons with Physical Disabilities effective October 1, 2020.

This policy change takes effect on October 1, 2020, the effective date established in the corresponding State Plan amendment, which was approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services on September 30, 2020. The regulations governing the scope, coverage and duration of DME services can found in 29 DMCR 997. DHCF is also amending program rules by adding chapter 998 MEDICAL ALERT DEVICES AND SERVICES governing the scope, coverage and duration of services.

These reimbursement rates for medical alert devices and services are included in the Medicaid Fee Schedule and are effective on October 1, 2020. The Medicaid Fee Schedule is located on the DHCF website at:

<https://www.dc-medicaid.com/dcwebportal/nonsecure/feeScheduleDownload>

Service Description	Procedure Code	Modifier	Notes	Rate Effective October 1, 2020
PERS - Installation	S5160	[None]	Single-unit installation at the outset of services (generally one-time across the life of services, unless there's a lapse)	\$45.00
PERS - Services	S5161	[None]	Monthly rate for monitoring and services, including repairs or replacements of equipment	\$35.00
MMD - Installation	T1505	U1	Single-unit installation at the outset of services (generally one-time across the life of services, unless there's a lapse)	\$40.00
MMD - Services	T1505	U2	Monthly rate for monitoring and services, including repairs or replacements of equipment	\$50.00

If you have any questions, please contact Andrea Clark, Reimbursement Analyst, Office of Rates Reimbursement and Financial Analysis, Department of Health Care Finance, at 441 4th Street, Suite 900S, Washington, DC 20001, or email at [andrea.clark@dc.gov](mailto:andrea.clark@dc.gov) or (202) 724-4096.

cc: Medical Society of the District of Columbia  
DC Hospital Association  
DC Primary Care Association  
DC Health Care Association  
DC Home Care Association  
DC Behavioral Health Association  
DC Coalition of Disability Service Providers