



New Medicare Program for Durable Medical Equipment and Diabetic Testing Supplies

As of July 1, Medicare will have a new program for Durable Medical Equipment. There will also be a new National Mail-Order Program for diabetic testing supplies. If you have **Original Medicare** (not a Medicare Advantage HMO or PPO plan), these changes will apply to you.

Some of the items covered under this new program are:

- ◆ Oxygen and oxygen equipment
- ◆ Standard (power and manual) wheelchairs and scooters
- ◆ Hospital beds
- ◆ Walkers

To find a Durable Medical Equipment or National Mail-Order Program supplier, you can go to www.medicare.gov/supplier or call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227).

If you are renting certain medical equipment or receiving oxygen, you *may* have to switch your supplier. ***Make sure you call Medicare or check the "supplier" list to ensure Medicare will continue to pay for your supplies. If they are not covered, contact a new supplier to avoid any disruption of service!***

To have Medicare pay for **diabetic testing supplies** delivered to your home, you will need to use a Medicare national mail-order supplier. If you don't want to use mail-order, you can go to a local pharmacy or storefront ***that accepts Medicare assignment*** and you will get the same low mail-order cost.

If you need assistance with this new program, help is available from the SHINE program. **Call the COA at 508-651-7858 and ask for a SHINE appointment.** SHINE volunteers offer free, confidential counseling on all aspects of health insurance to anyone on Medicare.