

		Reimbursement Policy
Subject: Durable Medical Equipment (Rent to Purchase)		
Effective Date: 09/14/20	Committee Approval Obtained: 09/14/20	Section: DME and Supplies
<p>*****The most current version of our reimbursement policies can be found on our provider website. If you are using a printed version of this policy, please verify the information by going to https://providers.healthybluel.com.*****</p> <p>These policies serve as a guide to assist you in accurate claim submissions and to outline the basis for reimbursement by Healthy Blue if the service is covered by a member's Healthy Louisiana benefit plan. The determination that a service, procedure, item, etc. is covered under a member's benefit plan is not a determination that you will be reimbursed. Services must meet authorization and medical necessity guidelines appropriate to the procedure and diagnosis as well as to the member's state of residence. You must follow proper billing and submission guidelines. You are required to use industry standard, compliant codes on all claim submissions. Services should be billed with CPT[®] codes, HCPCS codes and/or revenue codes. The codes denote the services and/or procedures performed. The billed code(s) are required to be fully supported in the medical record and/or office notes. Unless otherwise noted within the policy, our policies apply to both participating and nonparticipating providers and facilities.</p> <p>If appropriate coding/billing guidelines or current reimbursement policies are not followed, Healthy Blue may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reject or deny the claim. • Recover and/or recoup claim payment. <p>Healthy Blue reimbursement policies are developed based on nationally accepted industry standards and coding principles. These policies may be superseded by mandates in provider, state, federal or CMS contracts and/or requirements. System logic or setup may prevent the loading of policies into the claims platforms in the same manner as described; however, Healthy Blue strives to minimize these variations.</p> <p>Healthy Blue reserves the right to review and revise our policies periodically when necessary. When there is an update, we will publish the most current policy to this site.</p>		
Policy	<p>Healthy Blue allows reimbursement for durable medical equipment (DME) under specific guidelines unless otherwise noted by provider, state, federal or CMS contracts and/or requirements. Healthy Blue requires that all DME claims be submitted with the applicable HCPCS code(s) and have the applicable modifier appended.</p> <p>The item is considered purchased once the purchase price has been met. There may be instances in which a particular item may be considered for direct purchase on a case-by-case basis.</p>	

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BLA-RP-0189-20 November 2020

	<p>Circumstances Affecting Rental Reimbursement The reimbursement limit for rented DME is 10 months. Once the limit is met, claims submitted for the rental of the item will be denied:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rental periods that contain a break in coverage of more than 60 days will start the limitation count over. • On the occasion a member changes suppliers during the rental period, a new rental period will not start over. <p>Healthy Blue considers oxygen equipment to be a 10-month rental.</p> <p>Items Not Considered DME The following items are not considered DME:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prosthetics or orthotics • Disposable medical supplies (DMS) <p>Note: This policy does not apply to direct purchase DME.</p> <p>Nonreimbursable DME We do not allow reimbursement for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provisions of DME that exceeds the benefit limit unless authorized through medical necessity. • Repair or replacement of DME necessitated by abuse or neglect. • Repair or replacement of DME during the warranty period. • Enhancements or upgrades of DME for the convenience of the member or caregiver. • The aesthetic appearance of DME for the preference of the member or caregiver. • DME considered to be experimental or investigational. • The purchase or rental of common household items that are not medically indicated. • DME provided by a skilled nursing facility — this equipment is normally included as part of the facility charge and is not separately reimbursable, unless otherwise stated in a provider contract.
History	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biennial review approved and effective 09/14/20 • Biennial review approved 10/18/19: Policy language updated • Biennial review approved 10/26/18 and effective 09/01/19: Policy language update • Policy template updated effective 09/01/17 • Review approved and effective 03/14/16: Policy language updated • Initial policy approval effective 08/09/06
References and Research Materials	<p>This policy has been developed through consideration of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CMS • State Medicaid • State contracts
Definitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Durable Medical Equipment (DME): items that meet the following criteria:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Are primarily and customarily used to serve a medical purpose rather than convenience or comfort ○ Can withstand repeated use ○ Generally, are not useful to a person without an illness or injury ○ Are appropriate for use in the home ○ Are prescribed by a licensed physician/practitioner ● Prosthetic Device: an artificial structural and functional replacement of a limb/appendage or internal organ, or all or part of the function of a permanently inoperative or malfunctioning internal body organ ● Orthotic Device: a brace with rigid metal or plastic stays applied to the body for support or immobilization of a body part, to correct or prevent deformity, or to assist or restore function ● General Reimbursement Policy Definitions
Related Policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Modifier Usage ● Durable Medical Equipment (Rent to Purchase)
Related Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● None