

Request requirements for portable oxygen contents

In January 2015, the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) issued the following communication to all durable medical equipment (DME) providers regarding portable oxygen criteria: <http://www.lamedicaid.com/provweb1/dme/FIMS4081.pdf>.

This provider bulletin serves as a reminder to DME providers, specifically, regarding the request requirements for portable oxygen contents (E0443-09).

What is the impact of this change?

Per LDH, one month's supply of portable oxygen contents, gaseous (E0443-09), is equal to one unit. This requirement is in keeping with National Correct Coding Initiative guidelines. Healthy Blue will no longer authorize multiple units for E0443-09 on a monthly basis.

Additional portable oxygen criteria reminders

- Effective December 15, 2014, portable oxygen equipment can be reimbursed for members who need continuous oxygen and require portable units while going to and from a doctor's office, hospital or medically necessary appointment.
- Requests for authorization of portable oxygen should include documentation of medical necessity, as well as the anticipated number of visits per month needed, and must be submitted by the member's treating physician.
- Portable systems will not be approved to be used on a standby basis only.
- Justification for refills includes but is not limited to multiple weekly visits for radiation or for chemotherapy.
 - For example, the recipient may require three tanks per month. Your authorization would be for one unit, which covers all three tanks. Your reimbursement would be \$50.34.
- For recipients under age 21 years only, portable oxygen may be approved when needed for travel to and from school.
- All requests for portable oxygen should be submitted using the following procedure codes:
 - E0430-07 — portable gaseous oxygen system (rental includes regulator, flow meter, humidifier, cannula or mask, and tubing)
 - E0430-09 — portable gaseous oxygen system (purchase includes regulator, flow meter, humidifier, cannula or mask, and tubing)
 - E0443-09 — portable oxygen contents, gaseous (one month's supply is equal to one unit)

What if I need assistance?

If you have questions about this communication, received this fax in error or need assistance with any other item, contact your local Provider Relations representative or call Provider Services toll free at **1-844-521-6942**.

The information in this bulletin may be an update or change to your provider manual. Find the most current manual at:

<https://providers.healthybluelua.com>

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