

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

DIVISION OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES

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DME Letter Number 01-FY05

Dear Providers:

Re: DME/SME Quality Assurance

This letter is intended to clarify issues related to both Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and Specialized Medical Equipment (SME). As the result of a recent review, the Division of Health Care Services (DHCS) – DME will no longer interpret the SME/DME regulations concerning DME originated worksheets in the manner described in the letter sent to providers by the Division on June 25, 2003. The letter stated that “Alaska Medicaid and its authorized agents will not accept DME originated worksheets as a prescription...”

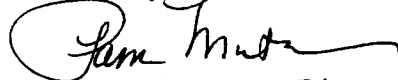
The Division’s current interpretation of DME regulations, allow reimbursement to DME providers for equipment, supplies or services that are prescribed by a physician or others acting within the prescriptive scope of their professional license.

DME Providers should also note that SME claims will be reimbursed at the amount approved on the prior authorization issued by Division of Senior and Disability Services (DSDS). The DHCS has identified paid claims inconsistent with the policy. The DHCS has instructed the fiscal agent First Health to reprocess these claims to be consistent with this policy.

The DHCS will continue with quality assurance efforts. Providers will be made aware of additional information as it becomes available.

Please contact Dave Campana, Pharmacy and Ancillary Services Manager with concerns that you have.

Sincerely,



Pam Muth, Deputy Director

cc: Dave Campana, R.Ph. Pharmacy and Ancillary Services Manager
Dwayne Peeples, Director
First Health Services Corporation, Director
Steve Ashman, Director, DSDS