Durable Medical Equipment (DME) Providers

Complex Rehabilitative Power Wheelchair Options and Accessories: Use of the KU Modifier

Effective for Dates of Service on/after January 1, 2020

When requesting certain Complex Rehabilitative wheelchair options and accessories, DME providers may request authorization for HCPC codes with a KU modifier as indicated below:

- HCPC / KU modifier combinations will be specifically identified on the DMEPOS Interim Fee Schedule.

- Wheelchair options and accessories using the KU modifier must be furnished in connection with a Group 3 complex rehabilitative power wheelchair.

- When a Group 3 complex rehabilitative power wheelchair base is validated in the beneficiary file and that specific wheelchair needs replacement parts, use of the KU modifier is appropriate.

- Group 3 complex rehabilitative power wheelchairs are described by codes K0848 through K0864.

- Service authorization is required for wheelchair options and accessories to be claimed with a KU modifier, regardless if the HCPC code without the modifier requires a service authorization. The KU modifier MUST be identified on the service authorization approval. *

Service authorizations and/or claims submitted for HCPC codes with a KU modifier that are not specifically identified on a DMEPOS interim fee schedule with a specific HCPC/KU rate and/or there is no indication the member owns the appropriate equipment that requires a replacement part or supply will be denied.

* If a service authorization has been approved for a Group 3 power wheelchair and accessories fitting the criteria above AND you have not yet provided the wheelchair to the recipient, providers may request a service authorization amendment to add the HCPC/KU modifiers. You must submit the original approved SA (first page), any additional documentation needed to support the change, if necessary, and provide, in specific detail, the requested changes. Using a cover sheet along with the original approved SA clearly indicating the request to add the KU modifier to specific HCPC codes is recommended.