



CMS Responds to AOPA Concerns Regarding Custom Fabricated Diabetic Inserts

CMS releases new proposal that would include virtual models for A5513

In July, the DME MACs and PDAC issued a joint bulletin stating that to meet the definition of "molded to patient model" descriptor for A5513, diabetic inserts must be fabricated over a physical model of the patient's foot. Further, digital or virtual models that were used to direct mill custom inserts are not considered a positive model and must be billed as A9270, a statutorily non-covered HCPCS code. On September 28, AOPA and the American Podiatric Medical Association submitted a joint letter to CMS expressing their concern, and AOPA has worked closely with the O&P Alliance, Representative Wenstrup's (R-OH) office, and the House VA Subcommittee on Health on this issue. On November 2, CMS announced a proposed change to the DMEPOS Quality Standards that would include the use of digital or virtual models as an acceptable method to meet the definition of "molded to patient model" language for A5513. CMS will hold an Open Door Forum call on November 28, 2017 at 2:00 pm EST to allow experts to discuss the proposed changes and will accept comments through December 11, 2017. Email ReducingProviderBurden@cms.hhs.gov with comments. CMS intends to finalize the proposed changes by January 1, 2018. [Read the proposal.](#)

Take Action Now to Stop the VA from Limiting Your Veteran Patients' Right to Choose

Send comments through AOPAVotes

The October 16 Federal Register included a proposed rule published by the VA that intends to "reorganize and update the current regulations related to prosthetic and rehabilitative items, primarily to clarify eligibility for prosthetic and other rehabilitative items and services, and to define the types of items and services available to eligible veterans." There is a provision in the proposed rule that significantly threatens longstanding VA policy that allows the veteran to decide whether they receive O&P services directly from the VA or from a VA contracted provider. This language, if finalized, is in direct conflict with the current VA policy as well as the Veteran's Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 and will significantly restrict the ability of a veteran to see the VA contracted provider of their choice for O&P care. AOPA has written suggested comments that you can send through www.AOPAVotes.org.

HCPCS Code Changes for 2018

Minor Change Only

CMS has released the new HCPCS codes for 2018, and there were only a few minor changes. Below is a complete breakdown of the code changes which will be effective for claims with a date of service on or after January 1, 2018.

New Codes

Code	Descriptor
L3761	Elbow orthosis with adjustable position locking joint(s), prefabricated, off-the-shelf
L7700	Gasket or seal, for use with prosthetic socket insert, any type, each

Changes in Code Descriptors

Code	New Descriptor	Old Descriptor
L3760	Elbow orthosis , with adjustable position locking joint(s), prefabricated, item that has been trimmed, bent, molded, assembled, or otherwise customized to fit a specific patient by	Elbow orthosis, with adjustable position locking joint(s), prefabricated, includes fitting and adjustments, any type

AOPA Polo Shirts - Now for Sale

Centennial shirts with AOPA logo

Celebrate AOPA's Centennial with us by ordering AOPA polo shirts for your office! The shirts are black with a white AOPA logo. Moisture wick, 100% polyester. Rib knit collar, hemmed sleeves and side vents. The polos are unisex but the sizes are men's M-2XXL. \$25 plus shipping. [Order in the bookstore.](#)



December 13 Webinar: New Codes & Other Updates for 2018

\$99 for members; Earn 1.5 CEs

- * Learn about new HCPCS codes effective January 1, 2018.
- * Discuss verbiage changes to existing codes and how they may affect your business.
- * Find out which codes will no longer be used as of January 1, 2017.
- * Find out AOPA's interpretation of why the changes took place.
- * Look at any other pertinent policy/legislative changes your facility should be aware of in order to succeed in 2015.

[Register now.](#)

