



CMS announced this month that the agency will implement the **Prior Authorization of Power Mobility Devices (PMD) Demonstration on or after June 1, 2012**. CMS first announced last November that it would implement the PMD demonstration starting January 1, 2012, but decided to delay implementation after numerous groups ([including the ITEM Coalition](#)) expressed concerns with the process.

In response to comments received from stakeholders, CMS has made a number of modifications to the Prior Authorization of PMD demonstrations:

- CMS has completed a separate Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) notification for this demonstration and the Recovery Audit Prepayment Review demonstration.
- **CMS has removed the 100% Pre-Payment review phase (formerly Phase 1), which was our most immediate concern.** The ITEM Coalition believes this process could have caused unnecessary disruption in access to mobility devices for Medicare beneficiaries with disabilities and chronic conditions.
- CMS will allow suppliers to perform the administrative function of submitting the prior authorization request on behalf of the physician/ treating practitioner.
- This demonstration will begin only after an OMB PRA control number is obtained. CMS anticipates the start of this demonstration will be **on or after June 1, 2012**.

For more information about these modifications see the [CMS demo site](#).

**CMS intends to conduct extensive education and outreach before and during the demonstration to clarify all demonstration requirements to ordering physicians, practitioners, suppliers and beneficiaries.** The [ITEM Coalition](#) will keep its members updated on the opportunities for stakeholder outreach.