



TOP FEDERAL POLICY PRIORITIES - 2020

1. Medicare Coverage of Seat Elevation and Standing Feature in Power Wheelchairs
 - a. Continue working with CMS on coverage issues and engage Congress to build support and, if necessary, legislate in this area.
2. Complex Rehabilitation Technology (CRT)
 - a. Advocate for legislation to create a new CRT benefit category.
 - b. Work with CMS to permanently exempt manual CRT wheelchair accessories from competitive bidding.
3. Competitive Bidding & Durable Medical Equipment (DME)
 - a. Advocate to prevent expansion of competitive bidding to ventilators and orthoses other than truly off-the-shelf orthoses.
4. Access to Complex Manual Wheelchairs
 - a. Address coding problems and seek to preserve access to titanium, bariatric, and positional tilt wheelchairs (Formerly HCPCS K0009).
5. Medicare Coverage of Vision Benefits
 - a. Spearhead initiative to improve vision care in Medicare (contingent upon additional resources) through addressing low-vision aid exclusion and advocacy for broader vision benefit.
6. Affordable Care Act
 - a. Defend essential health benefits, particularly rehabilitation and habilitation devices benefit category, as well as insurance protections.
7. Orthotics & Prosthetics (O&P) Issues
 - a. Urge CMS to re-examine and implement BIPA Section 427, including exemptions for certain professionals providing custom O&P care.
 - b. Consider supporting off-the-shelf (OTS) orthotics legislation to preserve access to clinical orthotic services (H.R. 5262, Medicare O&P Patient-Centered Care Act).
 - c. Support efforts to secure coding, coverage and payment for powered orthoses and prostheses.
8. Reform HCPCS Coding System

Continue work to improve the coding process and consider supporting legislative efforts to move the coding function from CMS to another appropriate federal agency such as NIST.
9. Medicaid Coverage of Cochlear Implants
 - a. Advance Medicaid coverage of processors for cochlear implants as well as coverage policies that advance access to CI and accessories/supplies.
10. Promote Consideration of Patient Experience and Functional Outcomes in CMS Coverage and Payment Determinations

Monitor & Support

1. Improve Access to Timely Repairs of DMEPOS
2. Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs)
 - a. Continue to support greater transparency and accountability in LCD process through legislation
3. Competitive Bidding in Rural Areas
 - a. Support extension and expansion of 50/50 phase-in of competitively-bid DMEPOS (H.R. 2771)
4. Over-the-Counter Hearing Devices
 - a. Monitor development of FDA regulations governing OTC hearing aids