

Abstract

There are many chronic diseases where patients require special equipment in order to live their normal day-to-day lives. Though helpful or even lifechanging, these devices can add on financial burden to the patient. Medicare Part B covers medically necessary durable medical equipment (DME), which meet five criteria: durable (can withstand repeated use); used for a medical reason; typically only useful to someone who is sick or injured; used at home; and expected to last at least 3 years. Implementing a DME service to an independent pharmacy can help alleviate unnecessary stress for a patient, as the place they get their prescriptions is the same place they get their medical equipment.