



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

Office of Health Services
Medical Care Programs

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
201 W. Preston Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Governor – Arlene H. Stephenson, Acting Secretary

MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Managed Care Organization Transmittal No. 41

February 21, 2003

TO: Managed Care Organizations
Susan P. Tucker
FROM: Susan Tucker, Executive Director
Office of Health Services

NOTE: Please, ensure that the appropriate staff members in your organization are informed of the contents of this transmittal.

RE: Coverage of Durable Medical Supplies/Durable Medical Equipment

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The HealthChoice program was carefully designed to ensure that Medicaid members receive medically necessary and appropriate services. As part of this design, each MCO is responsible for ensuring continuity of care to enrollees. This requirement includes paying claims for pre-authorized DMS/DME even if the enrollee has been disenrolled from the authorizing MCO when the supplies or equipment are delivered.

Regardless of whether the member is enrolled into another MCO, the REM program, or Medicaid fee-for-service, the MCO must pay for supplies and equipment already authorized and ordered at the time of the member's disenrollment. We apply this same rule to the fee-for-service program. If the fee-for-service program authorizes any DMS/DME before the enrollee becomes enrolled in an MCO, the fee-for-service program will pay for the supplies and equipment regardless of the delivery date.

Please ensure that all mechanisms necessary to accommodate this issue for your MCO are in place. If you have any questions, please contact Diane Herr at 410-767-5204.