

**MEDICAL ASSISTANCE: COVERAGE OF  
DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AND REPAIRS**  
**Prepared by the Disability Rights Network of Pennsylvania**

This fact sheet is designed to provide general answers to a few commonly asked questions about payment for durable medical equipment and repairs by Medical Assistance (Medicaid). **PLEASE NOTE: THIS INFORMATION IS NOT INTENDED TO BE LEGAL ADVICE APPLICABLE TO SPECIFIC FACTUAL SITUATIONS.**

**Does Medical Assistance pay for durable medical equipment and repairs?**

Medical Assistance (Medicaid) is government-funded health insurance for low-income children and adults, including many persons with disabilities. Medical Assistance pays for durable medical equipment, such as motorized and manual wheelchairs, walkers, standing devices, and patient lifts. Medical Assistance also pays for most repairs or replacement parts even if you did not use Medical Assistance to buy the equipment.

**Do I have to pay for equipment or repairs if I have Medical Assistance?**

If you have Medical Assistance, a Medical Assistance provider cannot require you to pre-pay for equipment or a repair. Also, the provider can bill you only if the provider informed you ahead of time that Medical Assistance would not pay for the service.

**What if I also have Medicare or other health insurance?**

Medicare (or other health insurance) must first pay before Medical Assistance will pay. Medical Assistance then covers coinsurance, copays, and deductibles charged by Medicare (or other health insurance). Medical Assistance may also pay for items that Medicare (or other health insurance) does not cover.

A Medical Assistance provider cannot refuse to provide you with durable medical equipment or a repair because you have both Medical Assistance and Medicare (or other health insurance). The provider cannot require you to pre-pay for the equipment or repair. For adults, the provider generally must first bill Medicare (or other health insurance) and then bill Medical Assistance for any remaining charges. For children, Medical Assistance generally pays for the service and then seeks payment from Medicare (or other health insurance). The provider is responsible for seeking any required prior authorization from Medical Assistance.

**Who should I contact for help?**

Disability Rights Network of Pennsylvania  
800-692-7443 (voice) or 877-375-7139 (TTY)

Medical Assistance Provider Compliance Hotline  
866-379-8477 (voice and TTY)