

Welcome to Hart

At Hart we provide a full range of home care products and support services for our patients / customers based on their individual needs. We strive to conduct our patient care operations with the strictest of standards as is required of a nationally accredited, premier provider of regional home care services.

Hart considers itself a benchmark in the home care industry and is pro-active in the development and implementation of services to meet the challenges of a changing health care environment.

In addition to our commitment to providing the most superb home care services available, Hart is an industry leader in staff professional development.

At Hart we recognize that the patients come first and their needs are the most important thing we have to respond to. We encourage an effective communication network with referring physicians and ancillary health care support staff to enhance patient care.

Our focus is on being a service-oriented organization, striving to do everything possible to help our patients, as opposed to having a product-oriented focus which leans to market development for specific products with little emphasis on service. To focus on the nature of our home care services as a complete patient home care device, not merely a product distribution service, an optimum therapy outcome is our goal.

A significant emphasis of Hart is the importance of maintaining a staff of skilled, properly trained personnel, available for the provision of home care services. This emphasis is reflected in our commitment to participation in professional organizations as a reflection of our commitment to our professions and our collective support of their principles as employed in our communities.

Hart believes that all patients in its care deserve to be informed of their rights and responsibilities while being served in the home care setting. All patients deserve to have eligibility requirements verified. Charges and/or patient responsibilities for service/care will be provided before or on the date of service, or are available upon request. Once admitted to care or services, your rights and responsibilities as listed herein are fully documented by Hart policies and procedures.



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Showrooms

Bay City

In McLaren Medical Mall East
1454 W Center Rd, Ste 3
Essexville, MI 48732
(989) 316-7280
M-F 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Dearborn

In Henry Ford Fairlane Medical Center
19401 Hubbard Dr, Ste 100
Dearborn, MI 48126
(313) 778-7055
M-F 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM

Grand Blanc

In Ascension Genesys Hospital
1432 Genesys Parkway
Grand Blanc, MI 48439
(810) 866-9435
M-F 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Lapeer

In McLaren Lapeer Medical Center
1254 N Main St
Lapeer, MI 48446
(810) 882-6032
M-F 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Southfield

21651 Melrose Ave
Southfield, MI 48075
(248) 304-4540
M-F 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM

Discharge Office:

Mt Clemens

In McLaren-Macomb Hospital
1000 Harrington Blvd, Ste 204
Mt. Clemens, MI 48043
(888) 606-8778
M-F 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Clarkston

In McLaren Clarkston Medical Building
5701 Bow Pointe Dr, Ste 105
Clarkston, MI 48346
(248) 241-9290
M-F 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Detroit

In Henry Ford Hospital
2799 W Grand Blvd, E-112
Detroit, MI 48202
(313) 264-6003
M-F 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM
Sat 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Grosse Pointe Farms

In Henry Ford Pierson Clinic
131 Kercheval Ave, Ste 70
Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236
(313) 203-3012
M-F 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM
Closed daily 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Port Huron

2001 Holland Ave, Suite A
Port Huron, MI 48060
(810) 982-0700
M-F 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

West Bloomfield

In Henry Ford W Bloomfield Hospital
6777 W Maple Rd, Room 60-01
West Bloomfield, MI 48322
(248) 862-7214
M-F 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM

Hart Hearing Care:

Rochester Hills

161 S Livernois Rd
Rochester Hills, MI 48307
(248) 241-9292 *Hearing Care*
M-F 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Clinton Township

In Henry Ford Macomb Hospital
16151 19 Mile Rd, Ste 105
Clinton Township, MI 48038
(586) 859-4042
M-F 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM

Flint

2316 S Ballenger Hwy, Ste L
Flint, MI 48503
(888) 606-8778
M-F 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Lansing

6250 S Cedar St, Ste 17
Lansing, MI 48911
(517) 489-5350
M-F 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Rochester Hills

161 S Livernois Rd
Rochester Hills, MI 48307
(888) 606-8778 *Main*
M-F 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Wyandotte

In Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital
2333 Biddle Ave
Wyandotte, MI 48192
(734) 258-1497
M-F 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM

Bill of Rights and Responsibilities

You have the right...

- To be treated with dignity, courtesy, and respect for patient rights in the provision of care of service without discrimination in accordance with physician orders, or to be informed of anticipated outcomes of service/care limitations.
- To be provided care and service in a timely manner, receive a timely response from a Hart representative when assistance is needed and have available a 24-hour emergency call number for assistance by qualified personnel.
- To make informed decisions regarding care or service, to participate in the development of the plan of service/care.
- To be involved in resolving conflicts about care or service, and the right to informed consent and refusal for service / care after the consequences are presented.
- To choose whether or not to participate in research, investigational or experimental studies or clinical trials.
- To have complaints/grievances heard, reviewed, and if possible, resolved.
- To confidentiality, privacy, and security.
- To have communication needs met.
- To have property respected.
- To be informed of financial benefit, if any, to the referring organization when the patient is referred to another organization, service, or individual.
- To be informed in advance of charges including payment for service/care expected from third parties and any charges for which the patient will be responsible.
- To be able to identify staff members through proper identification.
- To choose health care provider.

You are responsible for...

- Notifying Hart when you will not be available for scheduled services / visits.
- Notifying Hart if additional equipment and / or supplies will be needed.
- Participating as agreed in the plan of care and treatment.
- Notifying Hart of changes of address and / or telephone number.
- Notifying Hart of any change in condition.
- Notifying Hart of any change in physician orders.
- Notifying Hart of any change in physician.
- Notifying Hart of any change in insurance coverage.
- Notifying Hart of needed medical equipment repair.
- Notifying Hart when service or equipment is no longer needed so that pick-up of equipment can be arranged.
- Notifying Hart of any undue incident involving staff or equipment.
- Properly caring for and maintaining rental equipment and returning rental equipment in good working condition.
- Making payment arrangements to cover the costs of services rendered in accordance with applicable deductibles and coinsurance amounts.
- Meeting your applicable insurance deductible at the beginning of every benefit year regardless of when the rental equipment was delivered. Rental cycles often span multiple benefit years, therefore additional deductibles may apply.
- Making payment arrangements for any services / equipment not covered by insurance.

Medicare DMEPOS Supplier Standards

1. A supplier must be in compliance with all applicable Federal and State licensure and regulatory requirements.
2. A supplier must provide complete and accurate information on the DMEPOS supplier application. Any changes to this information must be reported to the National Supplier Clearinghouse within 30 days.
3. An authorized individual (one whose signature is binding) must sign the application for billing privileges.
4. A supplier must fill orders from its own inventory, or must contract with other companies for the purchase of items necessary to fill the order. A supplier may not contract with any entity that is currently excluded from the Medicare program, any State health care programs, or from any other Federal procurement or non-procurement programs.
5. A supplier must advise beneficiaries that they may rent or purchase inexpensive or routinely purchased durable medical equipment, and of the purchase option for capped rental equipment.
6. A supplier must notify beneficiaries of warranty coverage and honor all warranties under applicable State law, and repair or replace free of charge Medicare covered items that are under warranty.
7. A supplier must maintain a physical facility on an appropriate site.
8. A supplier must permit CMS, or its agents to conduct on-site inspections to ascertain the supplier's compliance with these standards. The supplier location must be accessible to beneficiaries during reasonable business hours, and must maintain a visible sign and posted hours of operation.
9. A supplier must maintain a primary business telephone listed under the name of the business in a local directory or a toll free number available through directory assistance. The exclusive use of a beeper, answering machine or cell phone is prohibited.
10. A supplier must have comprehensive liability insurance in the amount of at least \$300,000 that covers both the supplier's place of business and all customers and employees of the supplier. If the supplier manufactures its own items, this insurance must also cover product liability and completed operations.
11. A supplier must agree not to initiate telephone contact with beneficiaries, with a few exceptions allowed. This standard prohibits suppliers from calling beneficiaries in order to solicit new business.
12. A supplier is responsible for delivery and must instruct beneficiaries on use of Medicare covered items, and maintain proof of delivery.
13. A supplier must answer questions and respond to complaints of beneficiaries, and maintain documentation of such contacts.
14. A supplier must maintain and replace at no charge or repair directly, or through a service contract with another company, Medicare-covered items it has rented to beneficiaries.
15. A supplier must accept returns of substandard (less than full quality for the particular item) or unsuitable items (inappropriate for the beneficiary at the time it was fitted and rented or sold) from beneficiaries.
16. A supplier must disclose these supplier standards to each beneficiary to whom it supplies a Medicare-covered item.
17. A supplier must disclose to the government any person having ownership, financial, or control interest in the supplier.
18. A supplier must not convey or reassign a supplier number; i.e., the supplier may not sell or allow another entity to use its Medicare billing number.
19. A supplier must have a complaint resolution protocol established to address beneficiary complaints that relate to these standards. A record of these complaints must be maintained at the physical facility.
20. Complaint records must include: the name, address, telephone number and health insurance claim number of the beneficiary, a summary of the complaint, and any actions taken to resolve it.
21. A supplier must agree to furnish CMS any information required by the Medicare statute and implementing regulations.
22. All suppliers must be accredited by a CMS-approved accreditation organization in order to receive and retain a supplier billing number. The accreditation must indicate the specific products and services, for which the supplier is accredited in order for the supplier to receive payment of those specific products and services (except for certain exempt pharmaceuticals).
23. All suppliers must notify their accreditation organization when a new DMEPOS location is opened.
24. All supplier locations, whether owned or subcontracted, must meet the DMEPOS quality standards and be separately accredited in order to bill Medicare.
25. All suppliers must disclose upon enrollment all products and services, including the addition of new product lines for which they are seeking accreditation.
26. Must meet the surety bond requirements specified in 42 C.F.R. 424.57(c). Implementation date- May 4, 2009.
27. A supplier must obtain oxygen from a state- licensed oxygen supplier.
28. A supplier must maintain ordering and referring documentation consistent with provisions found in 42 C.F.R. 424.516(f).
29. DMEPOS suppliers are prohibited from sharing a practice location with certain other Medicare providers and suppliers.
30. DMEPOS suppliers must remain open to the public for a minimum of 30 hours per week with certain exceptions.

Medicare Capped Rental and Inexpensive or Routinely Purchased Items Notification

For services on or after January 1, 2006

I received instructions and understand that Medicare defines the equipment that I received as being either a capped rental or an inexpensive or routinely purchased item. (*Oxygen and ventilators are excluded from these categories*)

For Capped Rental Items: Medicare will pay a monthly rental fee for a period not to exceed 13 months, after which ownership of the equipment is transferred to the Medicare beneficiary.

After ownership of the equipment is transferred to the Medicare beneficiary, it is the beneficiary's responsibility to arrange for any required equipment service or repair.

Examples of this type of equipment include: hospital beds and mattresses, wheelchairs, alternating pressure pads, air-fluidized beds, nebulizers, suction pumps, continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) devices, patient lifts, and trapeze bars.

For Inexpensive or Routinely Purchased Items: Equipment in this category can be purchased or rented; however the total amount paid for monthly rentals cannot exceed the fee schedule purchase amount.

Examples of this type of equipment include: canes, walkers, crutches, commode chairs, low pressure and positioning equalization pads, home blood glucose monitors, seat lift mechanisms, pneumatic compressors (lymphedema pumps), bed side rails, and traction equipment.

Non-Medicare Patients: Although the information above specifically mentions Medicare, many insurance companies have their own capped rental items. The rental periods vary by payer but are generally between 10 and 13 months in length. If at any point you would like to know the rental / ownership status of your equipment, please contact our customer service department at 888-606-8778 and a Hart employee will look into your account to determine that information for you.

After Hours / Emergency Service

Hart ensures back-up equipment, maintenance, or replacement when an equipment malfunction occurs. It does so by providing access to emergency personnel 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Equipment may be considered standard, emergent, or non-emergent.

- Standard equipment are devices that are not considered life sustaining; however, the device is used on a daily basis. It includes but is not limited to hospital beds and mattresses, patient lifts, wheelchairs, and wound pumps.
- Emergent equipment are devices that are considered life sustaining and includes oxygen, ventilators, suction, PAP machines with respiratory rates, cough assists, enteral pumps and supplies, apnea monitors, and bilirubin lights.
- Non-emergent equipment are devices that may or may not be used on a daily basis, and the patient can wait until regular business hours for service. This includes CPAP / BiPAP and supplies, ambulatory aids, commodes, diabetic meters and supplies, nebulizers and supplies, and medical / surgical supplies.

Medical equipment maintenance service or replacement will be completed within 24 hours of a call when no back-up medical equipment has been placed in the patient's residence. Emergent medical equipment provided by Hart Medical Equipment will be serviced or replaced within four hours of a reported event. In the event Hart Medical Equipment cannot meet the four hour response time for emergent equipment and no back up equipment is available in the home or the patient needs immediate medical help, patients will be advised to call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room for care. For all patients with oxygen concentrators, a back-up supply of oxygen is given to each patient to ensure no interruption in prescribed oxygen use. Hart considers its maximum response time when evaluating the required amount of back-up oxygen needed. Hart will ensure the back-up oxygen system provides continuing support for a minimum of 4 hours at the prescribed rate, frequency, and duration.

Patient Confidentiality

It is the policy of Hart to maintain patient information with regards to the strictest of confidentiality. At no time will confidential information be released without prior written consent of the patient or legal guardian.

Privacy Notice

THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED AND HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION. PLEASE REVIEW CAREFULLY.

Hart Medical Equipment Pledge Regarding Protected Health Information (PHI)

Hart Medical Equipment understands that health information about you is personal. We are committed to protecting Personal Health Information (PHI) about you. We need this information to provide you with quality care and comply with certain legal requirements. This notice applies to all of the records about you generated by Hart Medical Equipment.

We will not use or disclose your PHI without your consent or authorization except as provided by law or otherwise described in this notice. We are required by law to accommodate reasonable requests you may have to communicate PHI by alternative means or at alternative locations and will notify you if we are unable to agree to a requested restriction.

Hart Medical Equipment reserves the right to make changes to this notice and to our privacy policies from time to time. Changes adopted will apply to any PHI we maintain about you. Hart Medical Equipment is required to provide this notice and abide by the terms of our notice currently in effect.

Your Protected Health Information (PHI) Rights

Although your health record is the physical property of Hart Medical Equipment, the PHI contained in the record belongs to you. You have the right to:

Inspect and Copy: You have the right to inspect and obtain a copy of your PHI. Such a request must be made in writing. This right is not absolute and in some cases we may deny access. We may charge a fee for the cost of copying, mailing, or other services associated with your request.

Amend: You have the right to request to amend your PHI. Such a request must be made in writing.

An Accounting of Disclosures: You have the right to request an accounting of uses and disclosures of your PHI. An accounting does not include disclosures associated with treatment, payment, and health care operations, disclosures made pursuant to an authorization, disclosures required by law, incidental disclosures, or some other disclosures. This request must be in writing and pertain to a specific time frame of less than six (6) months. We will act upon the request for an accounting no later than 60 days after receipt of your written request, but may extend this time frame an additional 30 days under certain circumstances. You may have one accounting per year free of charge, but will be charged a reasonable fee for any additional accountings.

Right to Request Restrictions of Uses and Disclosures: You have the right to request a restriction of the PHI we use or disclose about you however, we may refuse to accept the restriction, unless the requested restriction involves a disclosure that is not required by law to a health plan for payment or health care operation purposes and not for treatment, and you have paid for the service in full, out-of-pocket. You also have the right to request a limit on the PHI we disclose to someone who is involved in your care or the payment for such care.

If we do agree with your request, we will comply unless the information is needed to provide you emergency treatment. Such a request must be made in writing.

Request Confidential Communications: You have the right to request communications of your PHI by alternative means or at alternative locations. We will accommodate reasonable requests that are submitted in written form and specify how and where you wish communication.

Revoke Your Authorization: You have the right to revoke your authorization to Hart Medical Equipment to use or disclose PHI about you. Your revocation will be honored to the extent that action has not already been taken and as otherwise provided by law. Revocation must be submitted in writing.

Paper Copy of This Notice: The most current Notice of PHI Practices will be posted in visible areas of Hart Medical Equipment. You will also receive a paper copy of the Notice of Health Information Practices and can request an additional copy if needed.

Make a Request, Report a Concern, File a Complaint, or Request More Information: To obtain forms or to exercise any of your rights described in this notice, you must send written request to: HIPAA Compliance Officer, Hart Medical Equipment 5445 Ali Drive, Suite C, Grand Blanc, MI 48439. If you have questions and would like additional information, or would like to report a concern please contact Hart Medical Equipment during normal business hours, at 888-606-8778. If you believe that your privacy rights have been violated, you can file a complaint with our Compliance Officer. You may also file a complaint with the Secretary of Health and Human Services. There will be no retaliation for filing a complaint.



How We May Use and Disclose Health Information about You

The following categories describe different ways that we use and disclose PHI about you. Not every use or disclosure in a category will be listed.

For Treatment: We may use PHI about you to plan your care and provide for medical treatment or services. We may disclose PHI to your treating physician(s), or other health care provider(s) rendering services to you. For example: information obtained by our staff will be recorded in our record. Your physician may sign orders for your care or provide other communications. This information becomes a legal document describing the care you received and is part of your health records.

For Payment: We may use and disclose PHI about you so that third party payers can verify that you actually received the services billed for and to verify your benefits. We may use and disclose PHI about you so that the medical care and services you receive may be billed to and payment may be collected from you, an insurance company or a third party. For example: the information on or accompanying the bill may include information that identifies you, as well as your diagnosis, care provided, and supplies used. In the event that payment is not made, we may also provide limited information to collection agencies, attorneys, credit reporting agencies, and other organizations as are necessary to collect payment for services rendered.

For Health Operations: We may use and disclose PHI about you for purposes of health care operations. We may use PHI as a source of data for facility planning, community outreach, and to continually work to improve the care we render and the outcomes we achieve. These uses and disclosures are necessary to run the company and help make sure that all of our clients receive quality care. For example: for the purposes of quality we may use information in your health record to assess the care and outcomes in your case and others like it.

Business Associates: We may disclose your PHI to our business associates so they may perform the job we have asked them to do. To protect your PHI, we will require the business associate to appropriately safeguard your information. There are some services provided at Hart Medical Equipment through contracts with business associates. For example: collection agencies and medical storage companies.

Research: We may disclose PHI to researchers when their research has been approved using established protocol to ensure the privacy of your PHI.

Funeral Directors: We may disclose PHI to funeral directors consistent with applicable law to carry out their duties.

As Required by Law: We will disclose PHI about you when required by federal, state, or local law. This includes disclosures required to the Department of Public Health, which is responsible for preventing or controlling disease, injury, or disability. It also includes disclosure for law enforcement purposes as required by law or in response to a valid subpoena.

Worker's Compensation: We may release PHI about you to the extent authorized by, and to the extent necessary to comply with laws relating to worker's compensation.

Organ and Tissue Donation: If you are an organ donor, we may release PHI about you to organizations that handle organ procurement or transplantations.

Health Oversight Activities: We may disclose PHI to a health oversight agency for activities authorized by law. These oversight activities include audits, investigations, inspections, and certification. These activities are necessary for the government, accreditation, and licensing bodies to monitor the health care system.

Community Resources: We may use and disclose PHI about you to make referrals for discharge planning, or other community resources. Examples include, but are not limited to; infusion, medical equipment companies, hospice, certified home care, and nursing homes or other health related services.

De-identified Information and Limited Data Set: Hart Medical Equipment may use and disclose PHI that has been "de-identified" by removing certain identifiers making it unlikely that you could be identified. Hart Medical Equipment also may disclose limited PHI, contained in a "limited data set."

The limited data set does not contain any information that can directly identify you. For example, a limited data set may include your city, county and zip code, but not your name or street address.

Non-Described Purposes

For purposes not described above, including uses and disclosures of PHI for marketing purposes and disclosures that would constitute a sale of PHI, Hart Medical Equipment will ask for your written authorization before using or disclosing your PHI. If you signed an authorization form, you may revoke it, in writing, at any time, except to the extent that action has been taken in reliance on the authorization. Other uses and disclosures of PHI not covered by this notice will be made only with your written permission.

Breach Notice

Hart Medical Equipment is required to provide patient notification if it discovers a breach of unsecured PHI unless there is a demonstration, based on a risk assessment, that there is a low probability that the PHI has been compromised. You will be notified without unreasonable delay and no later than 60 days after discovery of the breach. Such notification will include information about what happened and what can be done to mitigate any harm.



Complaint Policy

Hart promotes open communication between patients and staff. Patients are free to voice their complaint regarding policies, care, or services and recommend changes without coercion, discrimination, reprisal, or unreasonable interruption of care or services. Hart receives, investigates, and responds to all complaints and recommendations received from patients. To assist in accommodating feedback needs of our patients a feedback form is located below. You may also voice concerns to the Accreditation Commission for Healthcare at (919) 785-1214, The Michigan Dept of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Board of Pharmacy at (517) 335-0918 from 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM Monday - Friday, and / or Medicare at (800) 633-4227.

Customer Communication Log

At Hart we genuinely strive to provide the highest quality in available home care services for our patients and their families. That is why your concerns are our concerns. To ensure that our service meets your total satisfaction, we ask you to describe completely any problem, concern, or compliment you may have.

This completed form will be routed directly to the manager who will promptly review the form. If you submitted a problem or concern, the manager will make verbal or written communications with you to assure you the problem has or is being corrected.

We appreciate your candid comments as well as your assistance in helping us to continually improve our service to our many valued customers.

Customer Name: _____ Insurance ID #: _____

Customer Address: _____

Customer Telephone #: _____ Date of experience: _____

Description of problem/concern/positive experience: _____

Action taken to resolve concerns/complaints: _____

Hart Employee: Attach this form to the Communication Form (ADFM026) and follow the Corrective Action Policy (ADOP008) for completion.

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Billing and Payment Policies

Hart Medical Equipment will accept assignment of benefits for most primary insurance carriers, on behalf of patients for services provided. All Medicare Part “B” claims are electronically submitted for processing. Once Medicare “B” has paid their portion of a claim, Hart will bill supplemental insurances and the patient for any unpaid portion. Third party billing is not an obligation of Hart Medical Equipment but rather a service offered to our clients provided we receive all necessary approval signatures when the service begins.

Medicare:

Hart Medical Equipment will accept Medicare Part “B” assignment for most services, billing Medicare directly for 80% of the allowable and billing the beneficiary or a third party for 20% co-pay and associated deductibles.

Medicaid:

Hart Medical Equipment may provide equipment to Medicaid recipients upon verification and approval of coverage status and medical justification. Presentation of your State Beneficiaries Identification Card and personal identification will be required.

Private Insurance:

Hart Medical Equipment may bill private insurances upon verification and approval of coverage status and medical justification. The patient/client is responsible for providing all necessary insurance information. Presentation of your insurance card and personal identification are required when billing private insurance carriers.

Managed Care:

Hart Medical Equipment will, upon approval and authorization from the managed care provider, accept assignment on most services of managed care claims for processing once all appropriate identification has been established.

Waiver of Deductible and Coinsurance:

A patient’s deductible will not be waived under any circumstance. A small payment each month will suffice if full payment cannot be made at the times of service.

The coinsurance may be waived only on rental items if the patient has been billed more than three times, and can document that they are still in need of the equipment and cannot financially afford to pay for their share of the rental. A Hart Medical Equipment financial assistance form must be completed and letter substantiating that the patient is unable to pay must be written and signed by the patient. Patients must also understand that if at any time their ability to pay changes, they are obligated to fulfill their financial obligation.

Reimbursement Deductible:

The Medicare Part “B” deductible is taken from claims in the order that Medicare processes them, not necessarily in service date order. The Medicare Part “B” deductible is satisfied by using Medicare’s allowed charges, which does not always equal the actual charges billed by the supplier. At the beginning of each year, you may be requested to pay Hart Medical Equipment your Medicare deductible amount. Our claims are filed the same day of each month as long as the equipment is in the home, and for this reason our bills enter Medicare’s system often before the doctor’s office or hospital.

Patient Liability for Non-Covered Services:

When assignment is accepted or not accepted on a claim, suppliers may bill beneficiaries for services that are denied as non-covered services. While assignment agreement prohibits suppliers from collecting more than their insurance's allowable charge for covered services, it does not prohibit billing for non-covered services. Billing on non-covered services applies to services that are never covered by one's insurance such as services that are occasionally denied as "not medically reasonable and necessary".

When accepting assignment before furnishing services which a supplier believes is excluded from coverage as not "reasonable and necessary", the supplier will inform the beneficiary of the non-covered services. For services rendered prior to receiving documentation to determine if services are excluded from coverage, the supplier will then inform the patient of the charge for this item. It will be necessary to have a waiver for liability signed to protect the supplier against possible liability for the service under the waiver of liability provision.

Necessity and Reasonableness:

Although an item may be classified as Durable Medical Equipment (DME), it may not be covered in every instance. The equipment must also be necessary and reasonable for treating the illness and injury, or must improve the functioning of a malformed body part in order to be considered covered. Payment of equipment that does not reasonably perform a therapeutic function for an individual cannot be authorized. Furthermore, when the type of equipment furnished substantially exceeds what is required for the treatment of the illness or injury involved, payment will be reduced to the least expensive equipment that will meet the patient's needs.

Signature Requirements:

The supplier may obtain from the patient and retain on file a lifetime authorization for the submission of equipment rental and/or purchase claims in the patient's behalf. When a beneficiary's signature is required and he/she is unable to sign, we can accept the following:

- A delivery ticket, education materials, assessments, or other Hart Medical Equipment documents signed and witnessed by another person.
- An Assignment of Benefits (AOB) signed by another person. The person signing should sign patient's name, his/her own name, and relationship to the patient.

Durable Medical Equipment Medicare Contractor:

In an attempt to provide greater efficiency in Medicare programs as they apply to Durable Medical Equipment (DME), which includes Oxygen, Nebulizers and CPAP, BiPAP equipment, effective October 1, 1993, the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) awarded contracts to four health care carriers, and in 2016 it was decreased to two carriers for the four regions. These carriers are referred to as Durable Medical Equipment Medicare Administrative Contractors or DME MACs.

Each DME MAC covers a specific geographic region of the country. Payment for DME claims, under this regional carrier system, will only be made to you or to your supplier. Remember these four DME MACs process Medicare claims only for DME.

Returns:

Merchandise may be accepted for exchange or refund within 30 days of purchase when accompanied by sales receipt. To receive a refund, item must be new and in the original packaging. Refunds are subject to management discretion. To ensure the safety of all of our Hart Medical Equipment patients, oxygen contents, enteral nutrition products, and disposable supplies ARE NOT accepted for return, refund, or credit. If you received a substandard or inappropriate item that was covered by your insurance at the time it was fitted, rented, or sold, contact Hart Medical Equipment to determine your options for return or replacement.

Deliveries and Services

Deliveries:

Call Hart Medical Equipment 24 hours in advance for routine and repeat orders for oxygen, enteral nutrition, and ventilator and tracheostomy supplies to ensure available inventory for your delivery. Deliveries are made Monday – Friday, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM.

Rental Equipment:

Customers are responsible for routine maintenance and cleaning of rented equipment according to the instructions provided by the initial set-up. Service, parts, and labor are provided free of charge on active rental equipment (except in the case of misuse or abuse). If the rental equipment has been damaged through misuse or abuse, the maintenance and repair costs become the patient/client responsibility. Rental equipment becomes patient owned once the number of months on rental meet your insurance company's purchase price. If you are unsure if your equipment is still renting, contact Hart Medical Equipment at (888) 606-8778 for more information.

Purchased Equipment:

New or used equipment for purchase or rental covered by an insurance payer is subject to the manufacturer's warranty from the date of initial set up for the specific patient. Refer to the warranty information provided with the item at the time of purchase. Used equipment purchased from Hart by an individual versus an insurance has a 90-day warranty on parts and labor.

Service and Repair:

Service and repair on equipment purchased from Hart Medical Equipment that is no longer covered by manufacturer's warranty will be subject to current labor charges. The customer will be informed of their responsibilities regarding the ongoing care and service of the equipment and will be provided with maintenance instructions and how to obtain any necessary services. All service and repair must be scheduled by calling our office at (888) 606-8778 during regular business hours.

Emergency Preparedness

Hart has an emergency-preparedness plan to provide continuing care or services in the event of an emergency that interrupts patient care or services and encourages you to do the same.

Your emergency-preparedness planning should include:

- Having someone designated to check on you if an emergency situation occurs;
- Determine a primary evacuation route and alternatives;
- Arrange for a friend or relative in another town to be a communications contact for the extended family;
- Make a habit of tuning in to daily weather forecasts and be aware of changing conditions;
- Find out where the main utility switches are and assign someone to turn them off in an emergency or disaster;
- Have a flashlight nearby and extra batteries for power outages;
- Keep extra blankets on hand if the heat goes off;
- Try to keep a back-up supply of medications on hand and rotate them so they don't expire;
- If you have oxygen or other medical equipment, be sure you have a back-up source in case of a disaster;
- Always keep a list of emergency phone numbers on hand, including the number for your medical equipment supplier.

Infection Control in the Home

General Information:

Contact with infected body fluids, such as blood, urine, feces, mucus, or the droplets that are sprayed into the air when a person coughs or sneezes can spread illness from one person to another. Sometimes infections are spread through items that have been contaminated by drainage from infected sores, or discharge from the nose, mouth, or eyes.

Controlling the spread of infections means interrupting the way illness can travel from one person to another. Maintaining a clean environment and good personal hygiene helps to keep infections under control. Good hand washing is the single most important way to control infections.

Maintaining Personal Hygiene:

- Wash or bathe daily.
- Wash your hair at least once per week.
- Brush your teeth and rinse your mouth after every meal and at bedtime.
- Keep your nails trimmed and clean.
- Wear clean clothes and underwear.
- Change dirty clothes and bed linens as soon as you notice soiling.

Wash Your Hands Frequently:

- Before preparing, eating, and serving food.
- After using the toilet, contact with body fluids, or outside activities.

Good Hand Washing:

- Wet your hands with plenty of soap and water.
- Work up lather in your hands and wrists.
- Scrubbing for at least 15 seconds or singing the ABC song while you wash is the recommended wash time.
- Briskly rub your hands together on the front and back.
- Clean under your nails.
- Rinse your hands thoroughly.
- Dry your hands thoroughly.

Keep Your Home Clean:

- Avoid clutter.
- Keep your kitchen clean.
- Mop your kitchen weekly and when spills occur.
- Add a teaspoon of vinegar to each quart of water or saline used for respiratory equipment humidifiers and dehumidifiers.
- Wear gloves when cleaning bird cages, litter boxes, and aquariums.

Hart Medical Equipment Services

Respiratory Therapy

Oxygen Home Use Systems

- Oxygen Concentrators
- Oxygen Gas Cylinders
- Nebulizers

Oxygen Portable Systems

- Transfilling Oxygen Concentrators
- Home Fill Systems
- Small Gas Cylinders with Conservers
- Portable Oxygen Concentrators
- Portable Liquid Oxygen
- O₂ Rolling Carts, Carrying Totes, & Backpacks

Sleep Therapy

- CPAP
- Medi-flow Water Pillows
- BiPAP
- Pillows & Cushions
- SoClean

Compression Support

- Ready to Wear Stockings
- Anti-embolism Stockings

Diabetes & Therapy Supplies

- Diabetic Shoes, Insoles, & Socks
- Diabetic Monitors
- Test Strips & Lancets
- Foot & Skin Care Products

Specialty Products

- Wound Care
- Ostomy
- Urological Supplies
- Incontinence
- Nutritional Formulas & Equipment
- Mastectomy
- Breast Pumps

Bath Safety

- Grab Bars & Tub Rails
- Bath Benches & Chairs
- Transfer Benches
- Bedside Commodes
- Toilet Safety Frames
- Raised Toilet Seats

Mobility & Ambulatory Products

- Standard Wheelchairs
- Rollators
- Walkers
- Crutches & Canes
- Scooters
- Accessories

Patient Room

- Beds
- Bedside Tables & Commodes
- Patient Lifts & Trapezes
- Pressure Support Surfaces
- Pillows & Cushions

Lift Chairs

- Lift Chairs
- Uplift Power Seats
- Lift Chairs with Massage
- Lift Chairs with Heat

Orthopedic Supports & Rehab Products

- Carpal Tunnel Braces
- Braces & Cervical Collars
- Knee Braces
- Abdominal & Back Supports
- Hot / Cold Therapy
- Moist Heating Pads
- Cushions