

Rick Howard, Manager
Health Financing Operations

Number: OMAP-IM-04-007

Authorized Signature

Issue Date: 03/11/2004

Topic: Medical Benefits

Subject: Prior Authorization (PA) Centralization of Durable Medical Equipment (DME)
Delayed Until May 1, 2004

Applies to (check all that apply):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All DHS Employees | <input type="checkbox"/> County Mental Health Directors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Area Agencies on Aging | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children, Adults and Families | <input type="checkbox"/> Seniors and People with Disabilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> County DD Program Managers | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): <u>DHS staff and others identified on the SPD, CAF, OMHAS and OMAP transmittal lists</u> |

Message: The Department of Human Services (DHS) is delaying centralizing the PA process for DME until May 1, 2004. This will allow OMAP additional time to hire and train staff to process and determine PA requests.

OMAP will mail the following provider notice to all DME providers the week of 3/8.

The following client notice is available for SPD and AAA offices to post or print and hand out to affected clients.

If you have any questions about this information, contact:

Contact(s):	Arlene Nelson, Manager, OMAP Medical Unit		
Phone:	(503) 945-6519		
E-mail:	arlene.nelson@state.or.us	Fax:	(503) 378-5814



PA Centralization Delayed for DME Until May 1, 2004

In January, the Office of Medical Assistance Programs (OMAP) sent a notice to those of you who receive prior authorization (PA) for some of the services you receive. The notice explained that over the next few months, OMAP would take over approving most prior authorizations. However, OMAP's responsibility for approving payment for durable medical equipment and supplies (DME), scheduled for March 15, 2004, is delayed until May 1, 2004.

OMAP is responsible for approving the following services:

- Speech therapy, audiology, and hearing aids
- Occupational therapy
- Physical therapy
- Home health
- Private duty nursing

This Means

Your local office will continue to approve DME purchases until May 1, 2004.

You do not have to do anything. OMAP informed the appropriate health care providers of this change.

Questions?

- ☎ **Call the OMAP Client Advisory Services Unit** at
1-800-273-0557 – if you have questions about this notice.
 - ☎ **Call your case manager** – if you need this notice in a larger print size or different format.
-



Provider Notice



The Department of Human Services (DHS) is delaying centralization of prior authorization (PA) for durable medical equipment and supplies (DME) at the Office of Medical Assistance Programs (OMAP) until May 1, 2004.

This delay will give the department additional time to hire and train qualified staff to process PA requests, ensuring a smooth transition as the PA process moves from local offices to OMAP staff.

Until May 1, 2004, continue to follow your current process when requesting PA for clients served by Seniors and People with Disabilities (SPD) and Area Agency on Aging (AAA) offices.

