

Part B Insider (Multispecialty) Coding Alert

You May Not Have To Cope With DME Competitive Bidding

The complicated system of competitive acquisition for durable medical equipment shouldn't apply to physicians who supply limited amounts of DME, says the **Medicare Payment Advisory Commission** in written comments to the **Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services**. Under the bidding system, only winning bidders would be able to supply DME in a specific geographic area.

"Prohibiting physicians from supplying DME to their own patients might substantially inconvenience beneficiaries--for example, not being able to provide crutches to a beneficiary whose leg has just been placed in a cast," notes MedPAC chair **Glenn Hackbarth** in the June 28 letter to CMS.