



PT 14-21

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Robert R. Neall, Secretary

MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
Nursing Home Transmittal No. 275
Disposable Medical Supplies/Durable Medical Equipment Transmittal No. 1
September 23, 2020

To: Nursing Facility Administrators
Durable Medical Equipment Suppliers

From: Marlana R. Hutchinson, Director 
Office of Long Term Services and Supports

Subject: Changes to the Approval Process for Power Wheelchairs in Nursing Facilities

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

This transmittal supersedes Nursing Home Transmittal No. 218, which was issued April 1, 2009.

Beginning November 1, 2020, Telligen, the Maryland Medicaid Program's Utilization Control Agent, will assume the responsibility for processing preauthorization requests for power wheelchairs (PWCs) for nursing facility residents. After this date, the Program will no longer accept requests from nursing facilities. Instead, requests must be submitted by a durable medical equipment (DME) provider that is an authorized Maryland Medicaid provider.

Requesting DME providers shall submit PWC requests using the same format and processes that are currently employed for requests submitted for Medicaid participants living in the community, via Qualitrac, except for the following:

1. As part of the request packet for a new PWC, providers shall upload copies of nurses' notes and activities for daily living (ADL) flow sheets for the past two weeks, as well as the most recent physical therapy or occupational therapy evaluation of the need for a power wheelchair;
2. Providers shall submit preauthorization requests for all necessary repairs, even if the cost is below the minimum amount for which preauthorization is required for community participants.

Also, claims for approved PWC equipment will continue to be submitted by the nursing facility. DME providers may not submit claims for direct payment.

Questions regarding the new preauthorization process may be directed to Telligen's Provider Services Line at (888) 276-7075.

cc: Nursing Facility Liaison Committee