



DME Orders: Tips and Reminders

In pursuit of providing high-quality, cost-effective care, our ACO has recently shared the following data demonstrating our medical cost and utilization breakdowns compared to the ACO as a whole. Of note, our outpatient DME costs present an opportunity for improvement.

Outpatient	ETSU	AnewCare	% Diff	ETSU	AnewCare	% Diff	ETSU	AnewCare	% Diff
	Visits per 1000			Cost per Visit			Cost PBPY		
Surgery	255.4	304.7	-16.2%	\$2,192	\$2,028	8.1%	\$560	\$618	-9.4%
ER	402.3	509.7	-21.1%	\$437	\$448	-2.5%	\$176	\$228	-23.0%
Home Health	1,294.8	1,782.8	-27.4%	\$339	\$281	20.9%	\$439	\$500	-12.2%
DME	455.4	389.8	16.8%	\$389	\$187	108.0%	\$177	\$73	143.0%
Lab	1,614.5	2,236.9	-27.8%	\$80	\$142	-43.8%	\$129	\$317	-59.5%
Rad	1,021.9	1,208.0	-15.4%	\$124	\$181	-31.4%	\$127	\$219	-42.0%
Pharmacy	1,553.2	1,340.4	15.9%	\$231	\$596	-61.3%	\$358	\$799	-55.2%
Other	6,824.4	7,296.8	-6.5%	\$22	\$26	-13.7%	\$153	\$190	-19.2%
Total Outpatient Facility	13,421.8	15,069.1	-10.9%	\$158	\$195	-19.2%	\$2,119	\$2,944	-28.0%

When reviewing an incoming DME order, make sure the order is **legitimate, necessary**, and that the **number of months is accurate**. Incoming order forms will often be auto-filled for 99 months or a lifetime supply. When possible, correct the order form so the DME is renewed for no longer than 12 months. This practice encourages patients to keep their annual wellness visits, and allows for routine monitoring to make sure the DME is still needed.

We have had recent incidents of scam DME orders being faxed to at least one of our clinics. In light of this situation, please exercise extra caution in reviewing DME orders for accurate patient information. Be cautious of typos or orders for DME that would not be clinically relevant to the patient.