

Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program (MDPP)

Medicare Advantage Fact Sheet

This document provides an introduction to Medicare Advantage for MDPP suppliers and outlines important information about Medicare Advantage that MDPP suppliers should be aware of when furnishing MDPP services to Medicare Advantage enrollees.

WHAT IS MEDICARE ADVANTAGE (MA)?

There are two main ways for beneficiaries to receive Medicare coverage:
Original Medicare (Part A and Part B benefits) • MA plan (Part C)

There are two main ways for beneficiaries to receive Medicare coverage— [Original Medicare](#) (Part A and Part B benefits) or a [Medicare Advantage plan \(Part C\)](#), which is a type of Medicare health plan offered by a private company that contracts with Medicare to provide, at a minimum, Part A and Part B benefits. Medicare Advantage (MA) plans may also offer coverage of supplemental health benefits that are not covered by Medicare Parts A or B.

MA plans are provided by Medicare Advantage Organizations (MAOs). An MAO is the legal entity that has a contract with the Medicare program to provide coverage. An MA plan is the package of Medicare benefits offered by the MAO to the beneficiary. An MAO may offer multiple MA plans from which beneficiaries can choose when selecting a plan that best meets their health care needs. Beneficiaries who choose to be covered by an MA plan are required to enroll in these plans during the Medicare Open Enrollment period. Once enrolled in an MA plan, Medicare beneficiaries are sometimes referred to as “members [of the MA plan],” “MA enrollees,” or just “enrollees.”

WHAT DO MDPP SUPPLIERS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT MEDICARE ADVANTAGE?

Furnishing MDPP services to an eligible beneficiary covered by an MA plan may require additional contractual relationships and/or payment procedures beyond furnishing MDPP services under Original Medicare.

MDPP Coverage in Medicare Advantage

MA plans must provide enrollees with all Medicare Part A and Part B services. MA plans that limit enrollees to a specified network of providers and suppliers must ensure that all Medicare-covered services are available and accessible under the plan. In order to do so, MA plans will need to contract with Medicare-enrolled MDPP suppliers to provide MDPP services to their enrollees or the MA plan may enroll in Medicare as an MDPP supplier itself. MDPP services rendered to enrollees in-network must be provided without cost-sharing. MA plans that permit enrollees to use out-of-network providers and suppliers may require enrollees to pay cost-sharing for MDPP services furnished out-of-network; however, MA plans are still required to cover MDPP services without cost-sharing if MDPP services cannot be provided in-network because there is no in-network provider.

Payment for Services

When furnishing MDPP services to an eligible MA enrollee, MDPP suppliers request payment from the MAO, not Medicare, by submitting encounter data or a claim for payment to the appropriate MA plan. The amount that the MDPP supplier is entitled to for MDPP services depends on whether or not the MDPP supplier has a contract to provide MDPP services with the eligible enrollee’s MA plan (i.e., the MDPP supplier is an in-network or out-of-network supplier).

Payment for Services (CONTINUED)

Where an MDPP supplier is a contracted, in-network supplier for an MA enrollee, the amount the supplier is entitled to for furnishing MDPP services to eligible enrollees of the MA plan is governed by the MDPP supplier's contract with the MAO. Where an MDPP supplier is an uncontracted, out-of-network supplier for the MA enrollee, the MDPP supplier is entitled to at least the rate established in 42 CFR §414.84 for Original Medicare from the MAO, less any cost-sharing required to be paid by the MA enrollee under the terms of the enrollee's plan*. The MDPP supplier must accept this amount as payment in full for the MDPP services provided**. In all cases, MDPP suppliers should seek guidance directly from MAOs on the procedure for requesting payment for services furnished to a plan's eligible enrollees.

Beneficiary Once-Per-Lifetime Eligibility

Medicare beneficiaries, including Medicare Advantage enrollees, who meet MDPP eligibility requirements are entitled to receive only one set of MDPP services in their lifetime. MA plans have the option to offer, as a supplemental benefit, an extended length of coverage for these services. MA plans may also offer, as supplemental benefit, diabetes prevention services in a 100% virtual format and other types of prediabetes services that do not qualify as MDPP services; however, we note that services offered as a supplemental benefit are not MDPP services, and cannot be used as a substitute for the provision of MDPP services under Part B. To aid MDPP suppliers in complying with the once-per-lifetime coverage requirement, CMS is exploring how existing systems can be used to verify whether beneficiaries have previously received MDPP services through Original Medicare, and intends to release additional details on this support in the future. MDPP suppliers may need to rely on beneficiary attestation or information from the MAO to determine whether a beneficiary has previously received MDPP services under Part C coverage.

BEST PRACTICES TO CONSIDER

When furnishing MDPP services to beneficiaries with Medicare Advantage coverage.

Step 1: Identify Medicare Advantage Enrollees

MDPP suppliers should confirm which type of insurance each beneficiary has before furnishing services by requesting and reviewing all medical insurance cards from a Medicare beneficiary. If the beneficiary is enrolled in an MA plan, the beneficiary will have an insurance card from that MAO. The MDPP supplier should know if it is an in-network supplier for the beneficiary's MA plan (if the MDPP supplier has contracted with that MA plan to furnish MDPP services) or out-of-network supplier (if the MDPP supplier has not contracted with the MA plan to furnish MDPP services).

Step 2A: For In-Network Medicare Advantage Enrollees

Gather details on an enrollee's eligibility for Medicare coverage of MDPP services prior to furnishing them by:

1. Confirming that the enrollee has current coverage through the MA plan
2. Determining whether the MA plan has previously covered MDPP services for the enrollee
3. Determining whether Original Medicare has previously covered MDPP services for the enrollee

Obtain Payments from MA Plan

In conjunction with furnishing MDPP services to the enrollee, the MDPP supplier should use the procedure prescribed by the MA plan to receive payment for MDPP services that is established in the contractual agreement between the MAO and the MDPP supplier.

* Section 1852(a)(2) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. § 1395w-22(a)(2)).

** Section 1852(k)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. § 1395w-22(k)(1)).



STEP 2B: For Out-of-Network Medicare Advantage Enrollees

Gather details on an enrollee's eligibility for Medicare coverage of MDPP services prior to furnishing them by:

1. Confirming that the enrollee has current coverage through the MA plan
2. Determining whether the MA plan has previously covered MDPP services for the enrollee
3. Confirming with the MA plan that out-of-network coverage is permitted and authorized for the enrollee under the plan.

NOTE: If the enrollee is entitled to out-of-network coverage of MDPP services under the MA plan, verify with the MA plan whether or not the enrollee will be subject to any cost-sharing.

4. Determining whether Original Medicare has previously covered MDPP services for the enrollee

Confirm the Enrollee's MDPP Supplier Selection

1. When the MDPP supplier is **not** in the MA plan network, the MDPP supplier should notify the MA enrollee that the enrollee may be responsible for all or part of the cost of the MDPP services and that the enrollee should check with the MA plan about how much, if any, of the cost of the services from an out-of-network supplier will be covered by the MA plan. The MDPP supplier should consider providing a written notice to the MA enrollee about the cost of MDPP services and that the enrollee might be responsible for some or all of the cost. The MDPP supplier should confirm - with the enrollee - that the enrollee is aware of the liability for payment prior to furnishing services. The MDPP supplier should also confirm if the enrollee still elects to receive out-of-network MDPP services from the MDPP supplier. This may reduce the chance that the enrollee ultimately switches suppliers.
2. Enrollees with questions related to coverage of MDPP services should be referred to their MA plan.

Obtain Payments from MA Plan and/or MA Enrollee

1. Before furnishing services to the MA enrollee, the MDPP supplier may request any pre-determined cost-sharing amounts from an MA enrollee prior to the receipt of MDPP services or may bill after MDPP services are furnished.
2. After MDPP services are furnished, the MDPP supplier should submit a request for payment to the appropriate MA plan using the payment and procedure amount determined when the MA plan was contacted prior to furnishing services.

NOTE: If an MDPP supplier has questions about how to receive payment or for what amount they should request from an MA plan, the supplier should contact the specific MA plan in question and not CMS or the MACs.

Need More Information?



Visit: <http://go.cms.gov/mdpp>



Email: mdpp@cms.hhs.gov



Call: 877-906-4940