

# Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program (MDPP)

## Medicare Advantage Fact Sheet

This document provides an introduction to Medicare Advantage (MA) for MDPP suppliers and outlines important information about MA that MDPP suppliers should be aware of when furnishing MDPP services to MA enrollees. As described in the following sections, 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.

### Medicare Advantage (MA) Overview

#### What is MA?

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

#### Who provides MA?

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, and 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 a plan that best meets their health care needs.

### Furnishing MDPP Services

#### MDPP Coverage and MA

MA plans must provide enrollees with all Medicare Part A and Part B services and ensure that all Medicare-covered services are available and accessible under the MA plan. **MA plans must either contract with Medicare-enrolled MDPP suppliers to provide MDPP services to their enrollees, cover out-of-network services, or the MA plan may enroll in Medicare as an MDPP supplier itself.**



Medicare beneficiaries, including MA enrollees, who meet MDPP eligibility requirements are entitled to receive only one set of MDPP services in their lifetime. MA plans may offer *supplemental* benefits, such as:

- Extended length of coverage for these services.
- Diabetes prevention services in a 100% virtual format and other types of prediabetes services that do not qualify as MDPP services. However, 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.

#### Payment for Services

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. **MDPP suppliers must seek guidance directly from MAOs on the procedure for requesting payment for services furnished to a plan's eligible enrollees.**

When an MDPP supplier is:

-  **A contracted, in-network supplier:**
  - 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.
  - MDPP services rendered must be provided without cost-sharing.
-  **An uncontracted, out-of-network supplier:**
  - The 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.\*\***
  - 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.

\* 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)).

# Best practices to consider when furnishing MDPP services to MA enrollees



## 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 must seek guidance directly from the beneficiaries MAO on the procedure for requesting payment for services furnished to a plan's eligible enrollees.**



## Step 2. Gather details on the enrollee's eligibility

MDPP suppliers should contact the beneficiaries MAO to gather details on the MA enrollee's eligibility for MDPP services **prior** to furnishing MDPP services. MDPP suppliers can do this by:

- Confirming that the enrollee has current coverage through the MA Plan
- Determining whether the MA Plan has previously covered MDPP services for the enrollee
- Determining whether Original Medicare has previously covered MDPP services for the enrollee



## Step 3. Identify in-network/out-of-network status

If the MDPP supplier has contracted with the enrollee's MA plan to furnish MDPP services, the enrollee is in-network (*skip to step 5*). If the MDPP supplier has not contracted with the enrollee's MA plan to furnish MDPP services, the enrollee is out-of-network (*continue to step 4*).



## Step 4. Confirm the enrollee's MDPP supplier selection (out-of-network only)

When the MDPP supplier is not in the MA plan network, the MDPP supplier should contact the beneficiaries MAO to confirm eligibility and notify the MA enrollee that the enrollee may be responsible for all or part of the cost of the MDPP services.

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
- Confirm with the enrollee that the enrollee is aware of the liability for payment prior to furnishing services
- 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
- Consider requesting any pre-determined cost-sharing amounts from the MA enrollee prior to furnishing MDPP services

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
- Be referred to their MA plan for questions related to coverage of MDPP services



## Step 5. Request payments from the MA plan

In-network:

- Use the procedure prescribed by the MA plan to receive payment for MDPP services, as established in the contractual agreement between the MAO and the MDPP supplier

Out-of-network:

- If cost-sharing payment from the enrollee was not previously received, bill the enrollee after MDPP services are furnished
- 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

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