



MEDICARE

Part A Intermediary
Part B Carrier
DME Regional Carrier

October 20, 2004

Michael Tymkiw
President, Primary Care Division
Medline Industries, Inc.
One Medline Place
Mundelein, IL 60060

Re: Woven Gauze Sponges, Sterile (Models NON21420, NON21422, NON21448, NON21424, NON21842, NON21426, NON21428, NON21425, NON21429, NON21423)
100% Cotton Drain Sponges, Sterile (Model NON255000) Non-Adherent Pads (Models NON25700, NON25710, NON25720)
X-Ray Detectable Woven Gauze Sponges, Sterile (Models NON21430LF, NON21432LF, NON21433, NON21438)
Avant Deluxe Gauze Sponges, Sterile (Models NON262242, NON264442)
Avant Gauze Non-Woven Sponges, Sterile (Models NON21224, NON21334, NON21444, NON21446)
Avant Gauze Sterile Drain Sponges (Models NON256000, NON256001)
Avant Gauze Sponge (Model NON21449)
Accu-Sorb Blended Gauze Sponges, Sterile (Models NON272242, NON274442)
Bulkee Super Fluff Sponges, Sterile (NON25852, NON25853, NON25854, NON25856, NON25844, NON25884)
Caring Gauze Sponges, Sterile (Models PRM2208, PRM3312, PRM4408, PRM4412, PRM21419, PRM21421, PRM1423, PRM9408)

Dear Mr. Tymkiw:

The SADMERC and the four Durable Medical Equipment Regional Carriers (DMERCs) have completed the HCPCS Coding Verification Review on October 19, 2004 for the above listed product(s) manufactured by your company. This review resulted in a consensus coding decision.

It is our determination that the surgical dressings, meet the description for a HCPCS code as assigned in the DMERC Medical Policy for Surgical Dressings. Therefore, the Correct Medicare billing code(s) for the product(s) is/are:

A6402 Gauze, non-impregnated, sterile, pad size 16 sq. in. or less, without adhesive border, each dressing for Models NON21420, NON21422, NON21448, NON21424, NON21426,

Palmetto GBA

Statistical Analysis Durable Medical Equipment Regional Carrier
Post Office Box 100143 • Columbia, South Carolina • 29202-3143

A CMS Contracted Intermediary and Carrier

NON21428, NON21425, NON21429, NON21423, NON255000, NON25700, NON25710, NON21430LF, NON21433, NON62242, NON26442, NON21224, NON21334, NON21444, NON21446, NON256000, NON256001, NON21449, NON272242, NON274442, NON25853, NON25854, NON25844, NON25884, PRM2208, PRM3312, PRM4408, PRM4412, PM21419, PRM21421, PRM21423, PRM9408.

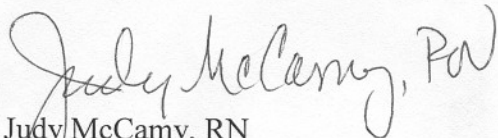
A6403 Gauze, non-impregnated, sterile, pad size more than 16 sq. in. but less than or equal to 48 sq. in., without adhesive border, each dressing for Models NON21842, NON25720, NON21432LF, NON21438, NON25852, NON25856.

This HCPCS coding decision applies to the submitted product(s) as presented to and reviewed by the SADMERC and four DMERCs. Any modifications to this product could change the HCPCS code and would need to be reviewed for coding verification. The assignment of a HCPCS code to this product should in no way be construed as an approval or endorsement of this product by SADMERC or Medicare, nor does it imply or guarantee claim reimbursement or coverage. For questions regarding claim coverage or reimbursement please contact your regional DMERC.

Should you disagree with this coding decision, a re-review of the product(s) can be initiated. The SADMERC will provide a re-review if the request is made within 45 days of the date of this letter and additional documentation is provided supporting the request. If a request for a re-review is made after 45 days, the request is treated as a new Coding Verification Review and a complete application must be submitted along with the additional documentation supporting the request.

If you have any questions regarding this coding decision, please contact me at the address below or by telephone at (803) 763-8707.

Sincerely,



Judy McCamy, RN
HCPCS Medical Analyst
SADMERC

cc: DMERCs