



MEDICARE

Part A Intermediary
Part B Carrier
DME Regional Carrier

December 1, 2005

Lisa Bauer, Vice President
Medline Industries, Inc.
One Medline Place
Mundelein, IL 60060

Re: Maxorb Extra Ag Silver Alginate (Models MSC9445, MSC9448)

Dear Ms. Bauer:

The SADMERC and the four Durable Medical Equipment Regional Carriers (DMERCs) have completed the HCPCS Coding Verification Review on November 30, 2005 for the above listed product(s) manufactured by your company. This review resulted in a consensus coding decision.

It is our determination that the above listed product(s) meet(s) the description for a HCPCS code as defined in the DMERC Medical Policy for Surgical Dressings. Therefore, the correct Medicare billing code(s) for the product(s) is/are:

A6197 Alginate or other fiber gelling dressing, wound cover, pad size more than 16 sq. in. but less than or equal to 48 sq. in., each dressing.

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.

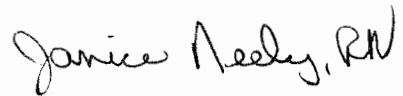
Palmetto GBA

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

A CMS Contracted Intermediary and Carrier

If you have any questions regarding this coding decision, please contact me at the address below or by telephone at (803) 763-7373.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janice Neely, RN". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

Janice Neely, RN
HCPCS Medical Analyst
SADMERC

cc: DMERCs