

## PROVIDER BULLETIN

NO. 09-12

April 1, 2009

TO: Medicaid Hearing Aid Providers

FROM: Vivianne M. Chaumont, Director  
Division of Medicaid & Long-Term Care

RE: Hearing Aids: RP modifier obsolete – use RA or RB

CMS declared the RP modifier obsolete Jan. 1, 2009. New modifiers are: RA – Replacement of a DME item; and RB – Replacement of a part of DME furnished as part of a repair.

To bill hearing aid replacements and repairs to NE Medicaid, use the following guidelines:

For service dates prior to Jan. 1, 2009, bill a *replacement* hearing aid with the old RP modifier.

For service dates Jan. 1 2009 and later, bill a *replacement* hearing aid with the new RA modifier. A replacement hearing aid requires an approved prior authorization request. (The \$500 “threshold” for prior authorizations does not apply to replacement hearing aids.) Provider must submit the actual cost invoice with the claim.

Do not use an RB to bill a part of a hearing aid furnished as part of a repair, or to bill the repair-lab actual cost invoice. Rather, continue to use the code, V5014 – Repair/modification of aid. This requires an approved prior authorization if billed at \$150.01 or greater. Provider must submit the part, or repair lab, actual cost invoice with the claim.

To bill dispensing fees in conjunction with replacement hearing aid(s), use following guidelines:

For service dates prior to Jan. 1, 2009, when billing dispensing fees V5160 (binaural) and V5241 (monaural), use the old RP modifier for a dispensing fee in conjunction with *replacement* hearing aid(s).

For service dates Jan. 1, 2009 and later, when billing dispensing fees V5160 and V5241, use the new RA modifier for a dispensing fee in conjunction with *replacement* hearing aid(s).

To bill dispensing fees in conjunction with repair of hearing aid(s), use the following guidelines:

For service dates prior to Jan. 1, 2009, when billing dispensing fees V5160 and V5241, use the old RP modifier for dispensing fee in conjunction with replacement of parts furnished as part of a repair to hearing aid(s), or a dispensing fee in conjunction with a lab repair of hearing aid(s).

For service dates Jan. 1, 2009 or later, when billing dispensing fees V5160 and V5241, use the new RB modifier for a dispensing fee in conjunction with replacement of part(s) furnished as part of a repair to hearing aid(s), or a dispensing fee in conjunction with a lab repair of hearing aid(s).

If you have questions or comments, please communicate via email with Medicaid DME and Hearing Aid program specialist: [mike.laughlin@nebraska.gov](mailto:mike.laughlin@nebraska.gov)