



## Reasonable Useful Lifetime Policy for Durable Medical Equipment

### **Purpose of this communication:**

To remind providers to review Health Plan Medical Coverage Guidelines for the Reasonable Useful Lifetime (RUL) Policy for Durable Medical Equipment (DME) prior to requesting a replacement or repair.

### **What do I need to know?**

RUL is determined by the applicable health plan and, in most cases, is five years; however, exceptions may apply.

In general, replacement of a device or part of a device during the RUL period is covered if the ordering physician determines that a replacement device or part is necessary due to any of the following:

- A change in the physiological condition of the patient;
- A lost item or irreparable change in the condition of the device, or in a part of the device; or
- The condition of the device, or the part of the device, requires repairs and the cost of such repairs would be more than 60 percent of the cost of a replacement device, or of the part being replaced.

While replacement due to irreparable wear during the RUL period is not covered, repair is generally covered up to the cost of replacement for medically necessary equipment owned by the member during the RUL period.

### **What do I need to do?**

Providers should reference the CareCentrix Provider Manual as well as [Health Plan Medical Coverage Guidelines](#) available on HomeBridge<sup>SM</sup> and reference material prior to requesting a replacement or repairs.

**Thank you in advance for your cooperation and continued partnership. If you have any questions, please reach out to your Network Management representative.**