



**Louisiana Department of Health
Informational Bulletin 17-10
October 6, 2017**

Changes to Durable Medical Equipment due to Tropical Storm Nate

On Oct, 6, 2017, Governor John Bel Edwards declared a state of emergency and a presidential Pre-Disaster Emergency Declaration was issued by FEMA for Tropical Storm Nate which is expected to make landfall along the gulf coast on Saturday, Oct. 7, 2017. The presidential emergency declaration was made in the following parishes: **Assumption, Iberia, Jefferson, Lafourche, Livingston, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. James, St. John the Baptist, St. Martin, St. Mary, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Terrebonne and Vermillion.**

Medicaid recipients who live in one of the declared parishes, and who are in need of replacement equipment or supplies previously approved by Medicaid, may contact a Medicaid-enrolled durable medical equipment (DME) provider of their choice, or a durable medical equipment (DME) provider contracted with a managed care organization (MCO) to obtain a replacement. Medicaid-enrolled providers must make a request to Molina's Prior Authorization Unit; however, a new prescription and medical documentation are not required. The provider shall submit the required Prior Authorization Form (PA-01) along with a signed letter from the recipient, giving a current place of residence and stating that the original equipment or supplies were lost due to Tropical Storm Nate.

Additionally, recipients who were approved to receive medical equipment or supplies from a provider in a declared parish that is no longer in business or unable to provide the approved equipment or supplies, may obtain the approved items from a new provider of their choice. The provider must be enrolled in Medicaid or contracted with an MCO. The original authorization will be canceled and a new authorization will be given to the new provider. For Medicaid enrolled providers, the provider will need to submit the required prior authorization form with a signed letter from the recipient requesting a change in providers and giving his or her current place of residence.

All other prior authorization requests for equipment or supplies will require a prescription from a doctor and documentation to establish medical necessity.

This policy is only applicable for residents in the presidentially declared parishes. If additional parishes are newly declared, this bulletin will be updated.

Questions concerning Healthy Louisiana managed care organization processes are to be directed to the appropriate MCO. Those questions related to Medicaid fee-for-service claims should be directed to Molina Provider Relations at (800) 473-2783 or (225) 924-5040.