



## Overview Of 2020 AAHomecare Regulatory Accomplishments

### **CMS Removed 13 DME Product Categories from Round 2021**

- CMS chose not to move forward with Round 2021 competitive bidding except for off-the-shelf back braces and knee braces product categories, allowing for any willing suppliers to provide DME in competitive bidding areas.

### **CMS Provided Flexibilities During COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE)**

- DME MAC TPE audits that were in progress at the beginning of the PHE were released and paid.
- Face-to-face (F2F) requirement is waived for all items where F2F is required by NCDs and LCDs (including articles) except for power mobility devices.
- Proof of Delivery signature requirements waived.
- Suppliers can provide a multi-function ventilator (E0467) as an upgrade to beneficiaries who qualify for a ventilator.
- Expanded use of telehealth to prescribe and reauthorize DME.
- Physical therapists, occupational therapists, and other health care professionals are allowed to conduct telehealth services.
- Limiting on-site inspections and other supplier standards to limit COVID-19 exposure within supplier location.
- Froze most audits early in the pandemic. The waivers have since been lifted but audits are limited in scope.

### **AAH Developed COVID-19 Tools and Resources for Membership**

- AAHomecare created a COVID-19 Resources website to maintain all the relevant information in one-place. The COVID-19 Resources page has:
  - Medicare Regulatory Flexibilities Reference Sheet
  - Analysis and Calculator for New 75/25 Blended Relief Rates for Non-Rural Areas
  - Information on Provider Relief Fund
    - Calculator for the \$50 Billion General Distribution Funding
  - COVID-19 Supplier Checklist
  - Links to CMS Waivers
  - Links to DME MAC Resources
- Last year, AAHomecare sent out over 70 alerts and articles related to CMS regulations and Provider Relief Fund updates.