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**CHAPTER 18: DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT**

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**SECTION 18.2: SPECIFIC COVERAGE CRITERIA****PAGE(S) 1**

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**18.2.1.6 Oxygen Probes**

Prior authorization (PA) is required for coverage of supplies related to pulse oximeters include oxygen probes and tape. Probes and tape are included in the rate on file for pulse oximeter equipment rental. Coverage for oxygen probes and tape for purchased equipment have the following limitations:

1. Disposable oxygen probes are limited to four per month;
2. Replacement oxygen probes are limited to one every six months; and
3. Oxygen probes and tape cannot be billed with pulse oximeter equipment in the same month of service.

**Note:** Billing of probes and equipment in the same month will result in denial.

Durable medical equipment (DME) providers must ensure that the prescription specifically indicates whether replacement or disposable oxygen probes are being prescribed for the beneficiary.

**Billing for Oxygen Probes**

DME providers must use the appropriate Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) code and modifier on the durable medical equipment, prosthetics, orthotics, and supplies (DMEPOS fee schedule on [www.lamedicaid.com](http://www.lamedicaid.com)) to request PA for these supplies. The rate on file for the HCPCS code includes reimbursement for the tape. The 'U5' modifier (oxygen probe for use with oximeter device, disposable) must be submitted with the PA request and claim for disposable pulse oximeter probes. Failure to submit the modifier with both will result in denial. A modifier should not be used when billing for a replacement oxygen probe.