



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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National Medicare Equipment Coding System Launched.

A system developed by GraySail LLC and Medicare contractor Palmetto GBA will make it easier for suppliers to correctly bill Medicare for the medical equipment and supplies they provide to Medicare patients. The web-based system, called DMECS (Durable Medical Equipment Coding System), provides online information and resources regarding proper billing codes and fee schedules for all 50 states and territories such as Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The project was funded by CMS, the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

Although the website is targeted for DME suppliers and Medicare service providers, it is available to the general public from Palmetto GBA's website. DMECS provides simplified access to Medicare billing codes and fee schedules, and includes a number of features meant to enhance access and use of data, including keyword searches and easy navigation. For advanced users, DMECS provides automatic generation and download of HCPCS code information and fee schedules as either portable documents or spreadsheet files.

Other features developed by GraySail that have not yet been released include product classification lists, a picture gallery, and a decision tree to help users find the correct billing code by browsing functional categories and answering questions.

Officially launched in May of 2004, DMECS is consistent with a federal initiative to simplify and increase access to Medicare policy information by using web and other communications tools.

A recognized leader in Medicare information technology, Palmetto GBA is a government benefits administration contractor which holds several significant contracts from CMS and processes more than 100 million Medicare claims each year. GraySail provides a number of services to Palmetto GBA, including data architecture, data analytic support, and web application development.

GraySail LLC is a web and information services company supported by the University of South Carolina Technology Incubator. Specializing in the area of complex data problems, GraySail provides a variety of business and technical consulting and development services. Along with solutions related to data architecture and analysis, GraySail also provides a number of allied media and communications solutions to assist in data publication.

For additional information, please contact Leslie Shearer, Marketing Director for GraySail LLC by phone or e-mail at 803.400.2043, or leslie@graysail.com.