



**Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals**  
**Health Plan Advisory 13-12**  
**July 23, 2013**

**Wearable Cardioverter Defibrillator (WCD) as a Covered Service (Procedure Code K0606)**

It has come to our attention that Health Plans are denying the Wearable Cardioverter Defibrillator (WCD), procedure code K0606, as a non-covered service for Louisiana Medicaid. This is to advise that the vest-like medical device is a covered DMEPOS service for rental only and is located on the DMEPOS Fee Schedule. The procedure code was inadvertently omitted from the fee schedule; however the fee schedule has been updated in April 2013, to include K0606 effective October 1, 2008. Prior Authorization is required for this service to ensure the medical necessity of the WCD and that the WCD will not be used for experimental or investigational purposes.

The ZOLL Life Vest wearable cardioverter defibrillator (WCD) is an external device that is intended to perform the same tasks as an ICD, without requiring invasive procedures. The device is designed for use by adult patients, 18 years of age or older, 24 hours a day to monitor and treat ventricular fibrillation and ventricular tachycardia, life-threatening arrhythmias that require immediate treatment. This vest-like medical device, worn under clothing, is the first cardioverter defibrillator that can be worn outside the body rather than require surgical implantation in the chest.