

HEALTH CARE BENEFITS FOR CHILDREN OF VIETNAM VETERANS**CHAPTER: 3****SECTION: 2.2****TITLE: DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT REIMBURSEMENT**

AUTHORITY: 38 CFR 17.903

I. POLICY

A. The maximum payment for the purchase of an item of durable medical equipment (DME) is the VA-determined allowable amount.

B. Delivery charge, pick-up charge, shipping and handling charges, and sales taxes are covered.

C. The allowable amount for repair to beneficiary owned DME is limited to the lower of the VA-determined allowable amount or the total rental cost for the remaining period of medical necessity.

D. For customized items, reimbursement is based on documented evidence of retail prices for customization or the VA-determined allowable amount, whichever is less.

E. The allowable amount for replacement equipment is limited to the VA-determined allowable amount less any warranty credit or other payment due from a legal claim.

II. POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

A. Durable medical equipment must be preauthorized for any item bought or rented that exceeds \$300.00 in total cost.

B. Durable medical equipment over \$300.00 may be purchased through VA sources.

C. Repair and adjustment costs on rented/leased equipment are not reimbursable. Those costs are included in the rental/lease agreement.

D. See [Chapter 2, Section 5](#), *Durable Medical Equipment*, for benefit information.

III. EXCLUSIONS

TRANSMITTAL #: 1
DATE: 01/31/02

State surcharges.

END OF POLICY