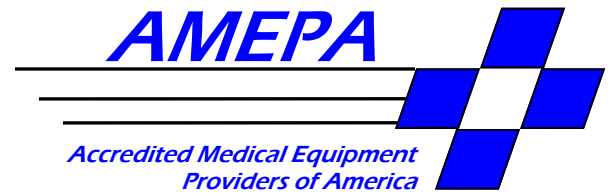


URGENT MESSAGE:

Medicare Competitive Bidding in Home Medical Equipment - July 1st



A Medicare Competitive Bidding Program for Home Medical Equipment is Scheduled to begin July 1st in Miami-Dade, Broward & Palm Beach Counties

Medicare plans to eliminate virtually 93% of all Home Medical Equipment Providers Starting July 1, 2008 only Bid Winners can Provide: Oxygen, Respiratory Assist Devices, CPAP, BIPAP, Complex Rehab Wheelchairs, Motorized Wheelchairs & Scooters, Hospital Beds, Walkers, Wound Healing Mattresses, Diabetic Testing Supplies, Tube Feeding Pumps & Supplies and Wound Therapy Pumps/Supplies.

**501 Oxygen Providers were reduced to only 44 Winners
402 Power Mobility Providers were reduced to 18 Winners**

Licensure, Experience and Brand Name Equipment were not considered in the Bid.

- Many Bid Winners Do Not Have Oxygen Licenses
- Many Bid Winners Do Not Have Offices in Florida or the Area
- Winners were based on The LOWEST PRICE
- Hundreds were Disqualified Unfairly, Unable to Appeal
- Bid Winners will no longer have to compete for your business by providing new or quality products, the newest technologies, personal attention and/or timely services.
- The Disaster Accountability Project questioned this program. There are gaps in Disaster Coverage. [What effect will this have in the Aftermath of the next HURRICANE?](#)

**Contact Senator Martinez at (202) 224-3041, (305) 444-8332 or (561) 842-3300
Senator Nelson at (202) 224-5274, (305) 536-5999, (954) 693-4851, (561) 514-0189**

Tell them: "Please include legislation to spare Florida from Competitive Bidding in Home Medical Equipment"