



## **Durable Medical Equipment Bulletin 37**

**DATE:** July 2024

**TO:** Durable Medical Equipment Providers Participating in MassHealth

**FROM:** Mike Levine, Assistant Secretary for MassHealth

**RE:** **Personal Emergency Response System Policy Update**

### **Introduction**

The Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) is updating its Personal Emergency Response System (PERS) policy.

Effective July 1, 2024, notwithstanding 130 CMR 409.402: *Definitions* and 130 CMR 409.429: *Personal Emergency Response System (PERS)*, providers may bill for members who connect to a PERS through either a landline or a cellular network.

**Note:** Members are not required to obtain an individual cellular plan when using a cellular PERS.

### **Informational Modifier and Billing Instructions**

Providers must use the informational modifier U8 with HCPCS codes S5160, S5161 RR, S5162, and S5162TW, when a cellular network PERS is used. See [Administrative Bulletin 24-21](#).

To bill for cellular network PERS, providers must include the U8 modifier with the HCPCS codes S5160, S5161 RR, S5162, and S5162TW. The U8 code will identify cellular PERS; billing without a modifier will indicate a landline PERS.

The interactive [MassHealth Payment and Coverage Guideline Tools](#) page has been updated to include the U8 modifier for the PERS codes.

### **Personal Emergency Response System General Prescription Form**

The [Personal Emergency Response System \(PERS\) General Prescription Form](#) has been updated. Providers must complete all sections of the form. Section 5 must be completed to identify which type of PERS unit will be installed.

### **MassHealth Website**

This bulletin is available on the [MassHealth Provider Bulletins](#) web page.

[Sign up](#) to receive email alerts when MassHealth issues new bulletins and transmittal letters.

## Questions?

The MassHealth LTSS Provider Service Center is open from 8 am to 6 pm ET, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. LTSS providers should direct questions about this transmittal letter or other MassHealth LTSS Provider questions to the LTSS Third Party Administrator (TPA) as follows:

**Phone:** Toll-free (844) 368-5184  
**Email:** [support@masshealthltss.com](mailto:support@masshealthltss.com)  
**Portal:** [www.MassHealthLTSS.com](http://www.MassHealthLTSS.com)  
**Mail:** MassHealth LTSS  
PO Box 159108  
Boston, MA 02215  
**FAX:** (888) 832-3006

 [MassHealth on Facebook](#)    [MassHealth on X \(Twitter\)](#)    [MassHealth on YouTube](#)