

## NON-ACCREDITED DMEPOS PHARMACIES MUST ACT NOW

As of **February 12, 2010**, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) will start sending revocation notices to pharmacies that have not been accredited. For pharmacies that are still undergoing accreditation, they have until **March 1, 2010** to get their accreditation **done** and **submitted** to CMS.

Pharmacies **MUST ENSURE THAT THEY “STEP DOWN”** from selling DME supplies to Medicare beneficiaries if one of these scenarios applies:

Pharmacy has elected **NOT** to become accredited

**OR**

Pharmacy has submitted a surety bond,  
but will **NOT** have their accreditation finished by **March 1, 2010**

To **“STEP DOWN”** or **VOLUNTARILY TERMINATE** from the program, the pharmacy must amend their CMS-855s application. The deadline to submit this information is **February 12, 2010**.

If a pharmacy sent in their CMS-855s application in late September or early October to **“step down,”** it is recommended that they send another **“step down”** application to the National Supplier Clearinghouse (NSC). CMS granted a 3-month accreditation extension, which means they most likely did not process the original **“step down”** application.

If a pharmacy **“steps down,”** it will take less time to be accepted back into the program, than if CMS **revokes** a pharmacy's DME billing number.

According to CMS, if an **UNACCREDITED** pharmacy's DME billing number is **revoked**, the pharmacy **WILL NOT** be able to return to the program for a minimum of one (1) year.

An **UNACCREDITED** pharmacy means—

1. A Pharmacy that is **NOT** going to pursue accreditation
2. A Pharmacy that is working through the accreditation process, but will **NOT** be accredited by the March 1, 2010 deadline