Local Coverage Determination (LCD):
Suction Pumps (L33612)

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**Contractor Information**

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LCD Information

Document Information

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LCD Title: Suction Pumps

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CMS National Coverage Policy CMS Manual System, Pub. 100.03, Medicare National Coverage Determinations Manual, Chapter 1, Section 280-1

Coverage Guidance

Coverage Indications, Limitations, and/or Medical Necessity

For any item to be covered by Medicare, it must 1) be eligible for a defined Medicare benefit category, 2) be reasonable and necessary for the diagnosis or treatment of illness or injury or to improve the functioning of a...
The purpose of a Local Coverage Determination (LCD) is to provide information regarding “reasonable and necessary” criteria based on Social Security Act § 1862(a)(1)(A) provisions.

In addition to the “reasonable and necessary” criteria contained in this LCD there are other payment rules, which are discussed in the following documents, that must also be met prior to Medicare reimbursement:

- The LCD-related Standard Documentation Requirements Article, located at the bottom of this policy under the Related Local Coverage Documents section.
- The LCD-related Policy Article, located at the bottom of this policy under the Related Local Coverage Documents section. Refer to the related Local Coverage Policy Article for Suction Pumps for additional information about the statutory requirements for payment and information about correct coding.
- Refer to the Supplier Manual for additional information on documentation requirements.
- Refer to the DME MAC web sites for additional bulletin articles and other publications related to this LCD.

For the items addressed in this LCD, the “reasonable and necessary” criteria, based on Social Security Act § 1862(a)(1)(A) provisions, are defined by the following coverage indications, limitations and/or medical necessity.

GASTRIC SUCTION

A gastric suction pump (E2000) is used to remove gastrointestinal fluids under continuous or intermittent suction via a tube. Use of a gastric suction pump and related supplies are covered for beneficiaries who are unable to empty gastric secretions through normal gastrointestinal functions. Use of a gastric suction pump for other conditions will be denied as not reasonable and necessary.

Supplies (tubing, tape, dressings, etc.) are covered and are separately payable when they are medically necessary and used with a medically necessary E2000 pump. Supplies used with DME that is denied as not reasonable and necessary will also be denied as not reasonable and necessary.

RESPIRATORY SUCTION

A respiratory suction pump (E0600) is only covered for beneficiaries who have difficulty raising and clearing secretions secondary to:

1. Cancer or surgery of the throat or mouth
2. Dysfunction of the swallowing muscles
3. Unconsciousness or obtunded state
4. Tracheostomy

Use of a respiratory suction pump for other conditions will be denied as not reasonable and necessary.

Suction catheters (A4605, A4624, A4628) and sterile water/saline (A4216, A4217) are covered and are separately payable when they are medically necessary and used with a medically necessary E0600 pump. Supplies used with DME that is denied as not reasonable and necessary will also be denied as not reasonable and necessary.

Codes A4605 and A4624 are only covered for beneficiaries with a tracheostomy (Reference the Diagnosis Codes that Support Medical Necessity section) as described below:

- Tracheal suction catheters (A4624) are reasonable and necessary only when all of the following are met:
The beneficiary has a tracheostomy described by the listed diagnosis codes
The beneficiary requires the use of a covered respiratory suction pump (E0600) as described above, for tracheostomy suctioning.

• Closed system catheters (A4605) are reasonable and necessary only when all of the following are met:
  ◦ The beneficiary has a tracheostomy described by the listed diagnosis codes
  ◦ The beneficiary requires the use of a covered respiratory suction pump (E0600) as described above, for tracheostomy suctioning
  ◦ The beneficiary requires the use of a covered ventilator (Refer to CMS’ Internet Only Manual 100-03, CH 1, §280.1 for information about the coverage of ventilators.)

Claims for A4605 and A4624 suction catheters that do not meet all of the criteria above will be denied as not reasonable and necessary.

More than three A4624 catheters per day will be denied as not reasonable and necessary for tracheostomy suctioning.

Non-tracheal suction catheters (A4628) are reasonable and necessary for suctioning in the oropharynx. The oropharynx is not sterile, therefore the catheter can be reused if properly cleansed and/or disinfected. More than three catheters (A4628) per week will be denied as not reasonable and necessary for oropharyngeal suctioning.

A7047 is not used to remove secretions for the covered indications described above. Claims for A7047 will be denied as not reasonable and necessary.

Sterile water/saline solution (A4216, A4217) is covered when used to clear a suction catheter after tracheostomy suctioning. Sterile water/saline will be denied as not reasonable and necessary when used for oropharyngeal suctioning.

WOUND SUCTION

Use of suction on wounds (A9272, K0743) is only appropriate in those clinical scenarios where the quantity of exudate exceeds the capacity of conservative measures such as surgical dressings and wound fillers to contain it. However, wound suction to remove exudate can be accomplished with the use of non-covered disposable, suction devices (A9272) or with covered DME devices (K0743). When a non-covered alternative exists (A9272), it is not reasonable or necessary to use a covered DME item (K0743). Therefore, when K0743 is billed it will be denied as not reasonable and necessary. Refer to the related Local Coverage Policy Article for Suction Pumps for additional information about the statutory requirements for disposable wound suction items (A9270, A9272).

Wound suction pumps and their associated supplies, which have not been specifically designated as being qualified to use HCPCS code K0743 via written instructions from the Pricing, Data Analysis and Coding (PDAC) Contractor will be denied as not reasonable and necessary.

Wound suction pumps and their associated supplies, which have not been specifically designated as being qualified to use HCPCS code K0743 via written instructions from the Pricing, Data Analysis and Coding (PDAC) Contractor will be denied as not reasonable and necessary.

An item/service is correctly coded when it meets all the coding guidelines listed in CMS HCPCS guidelines, LCDs, LCD-related Policy Articles, or DME MAC articles. Claims that do not meet coding guidelines shall be denied as not reasonable and necessary/incorrectly coded.

Proof of delivery (POD) is a Supplier Standard and DMEPOS suppliers are required to maintain POD documentation in their files. Proof of delivery documentation must be made available to the Medicare contractor upon request. All services that do not have appropriate proof of delivery from the supplier shall be denied as not reasonable and necessary.

REFILL REQUIREMENTS
For DMEPOS items and supplies provided on a recurring basis, billing must be based on prospective, not
retrospective use. For DMEPOS products that are supplied as refills to the original order, suppliers must contact
the beneficiary prior to dispensing the refill and not automatically ship on a pre-determined basis, even if
authorized by the beneficiary. This shall be done to ensure that the refilled item remains reasonable and
necessary, existing supplies are approaching exhaustion, and to confirm any changes or modifications to the
order. Contact with the beneficiary or designee regarding refills must take place no sooner than 14 calendar days
prior to the delivery/shipping date. For delivery of refills, the supplier must deliver the DMEPOS product no
sooner than 10 calendar days prior to the end of usage for the current product. This is regardless of which
delivery method is utilized.

For all DMEPOS items that are provided on a recurring basis, suppliers are required to have contact with the
beneficiary or caregiver/designee prior to dispensing a new supply of items. Suppliers must not deliver refills
without a refill request from a beneficiary. Items delivered without a valid, documented refill request will be
denied as not reasonable and necessary.

Suppliers must not dispense a quantity of supplies exceeding a beneficiary's expected utilization. Suppliers must
stay attuned to changed or atypical utilization patterns on the part of their clients. Suppliers must verify with the
ordering physicians that any changed or atypical utilization is warranted.

Regardless of utilization, a supplier must not dispense more than a 3-month quantity at a time.

Coding Information

Bill Type Codes:

Contractors may specify Bill Types to help providers identify those Bill Types typically used to report this service.
Absence of a Bill Type does not guarantee that the policy does not apply to that Bill Type. Complete absence of all
Bill Types indicates that coverage is not influenced by Bill Type and the policy should be assumed to apply equally
to all claims.

N/A

Revenue Codes:

Contractors may specify Revenue Codes to help providers identify those Revenue Codes typically used to report
this service. In most instances Revenue Codes are purely advisory. Unless specified in the policy, services
reported under other Revenue Codes are equally subject to this coverage determination. Complete absence of all
Revenue Codes indicates that coverage is not influenced by Revenue Code and the policy should be assumed to
apply equally to all Revenue Codes.

N/A

CPT/HCPCS Codes

Group 1 Paragraph: The appearance of a code in this section does not necessarily indicate coverage.

HCPCS MODIFIERS:

EY - No physician or other licensed health care provider order for this item or service

HCPCS CODES:

Group 1 Codes:
A4216 STERILE WATER, SALINE AND/OR DEXTROSE, DILUENT/FLUSH, 10 ML
A4217 STERILE WATER/SALINE, 500 ML
A4605 TRACHEAL SUCTION CATHETER, CLOSED SYSTEM, EACH
A4624 TRACHEAL SUCTION CATHETER, ANY TYPE OTHER THAN CLOSED SYSTEM, EACH
A4628 OROPHARYNGEAL SUCTION CATHETER, EACH
A7000 CANISTER, DISPOSABLE, USED WITH SUCTION PUMP, EACH
A7001 CANISTER, NON-DISPOSABLE, USED WITH SUCTION PUMP, EACH
A7002 TUBING, USED WITH SUCTION PUMP, EACH
A7047 ORAL INTERFACE USED WITH RESPIRATORY SUCTION PUMP, EACH
A9272 WOUND SUCTION, DISPOSABLE, INCLUDES DRESSING, ALL ACCESSORIES AND COMPONENTS, ANY TYPE, EACH
E0600 RESPIRATORY SUCTION PUMP, HOME MODEL, PORTABLE OR STATIONARY, ELECTRIC
E2000 GASTRIC SUCTION PUMP, HOME MODEL, PORTABLE OR STATIONARY, ELECTRIC
K0743 SUCTION PUMP, HOME MODEL, PORTABLE, FOR USE ON WOUNDS
K0744 ABSORPTIVE WOUND DRESSING FOR USE WITH SUCTION PUMP, HOME MODEL, PORTABLE, PAD SIZE 16 SQUARE INCHES OR LESS
K0745 ABSORPTIVE WOUND DRESSING FOR USE WITH SUCTION PUMP, HOME MODEL, PORTABLE, PAD SIZE MORE THAN 16 SQUARE INCHES BUT LESS THAN OR EQUAL TO 48 SQUARE INCHES
K0746 ABSORPTIVE WOUND DRESSING FOR USE WITH SUCTION PUMP, HOME MODEL, PORTABLE, PAD SIZE GREATER THAN 48 SQUARE INCHES

ICD-10 Codes that Support Medical Necessity

**Group 1 Paragraph:** The presence of an ICD-10 code listed in this section is not sufficient by itself to assure coverage. Refer to the section on “Coverage Indications, Limitations and/or Medical Necessity” for other coverage criteria and payment information.

For HCPCS Codes A4605 and A4624:

**Group 1 Codes:**

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<td>Unspecified tracheostomy complication</td>
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<td>Infection of tracheostomy stoma</td>
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<td>J95.03</td>
<td>Malfunction of tracheostomy stoma</td>
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<td>J95.04</td>
<td>Tracheo-esophageal fistula following tracheostomy</td>
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<tr>
<td>J95.09</td>
<td>Other tracheostomy complication</td>
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<tr>
<td>Z43.0</td>
<td>Encounter for attention to tracheostomy</td>
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ICD-10 Codes that DO NOT Support Medical Necessity

**Group 1 Paragraph:** For A4605 and A4624 – All codes not listed above

For A7002, A7047 and E0600 - G47.33

For the remaining codes in this LCD - Not specified

**Group 1 Codes:** N/A

ICD-10 Additional Information

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**General Information**

Associated Information
DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS

Section 1833(e) of the Social Security Act precludes payment to any provider of services unless “there has been furnished such information as may be necessary in order to determine the amounts due such provider.” It is expected that the beneficiary’s medical records will reflect the need for the care provided. The beneficiary’s medical records include the physician’s office records, hospital records, nursing home records, home health agency records, records from other healthcare professionals and test reports. This documentation must be available upon request.

GENERAL DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS

In order to justify payment for DMEPOS items, suppliers must meet the following requirements:

- Prescription (orders)
- Medical Record Information (including continued need/use if applicable)
- Correct Coding
- Proof of Delivery

Refer to the LCD-related Standard Documentation Requirements article, located at the bottom of this policy under the Related Local Coverage Documents section for additional information regarding these requirements.

Refer to the Supplier Manual for additional information on documentation requirements.

Refer to the DME MAC web sites for additional bulletin articles and other publications related to this LCD.

POLICY SPECIFIC DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS

Items covered in this LCD have additional policy-specific requirements that must be met prior to Medicare reimbursement.

Refer to the LCD-related Policy article, located at the bottom of this policy under the Related Local Coverage Documents section for additional information.

Miscellaneous

Appendices

Utilization Guidelines

Refer to Coverage Indications, Limitations and/or Medical Necessity

Sources of Information and Basis for Decision
CR 7411
NCD 280.14

Revision History Information

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<td>07/01/2016 R2</td>
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<td>COVERAGE INDICATIONS, INDICATIONS, LIMITATIONS AND/OR MEDICAL NECESSITY: Removed: Standard Documentation Language Added: New reference language and directions to Standard Documentation Requirements Added: General Requirements Revised: Refill Requirements DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS: Removed: Standard Documentation Language Added: General Documentation Requirements Added: New reference language and directions to Standard Documentation Requirements POLICY SPECIFIC DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS: Removed: Standard Documentation Language Added: Direction to Standard Documentation Requirements Removed: Supplier Manual reference under Miscellaneous Removed: PIM citation under Appendices RELATED LOCAL COVERAGE DOCUMENTS: Added: LCD-related Standard Documentation Requirements article Effective July 1, 2016 oversight for DME MAC LCDs is the responsibility of CGS Administrators, LLC 18003 and 17013 and Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC 19003 and 16013. No other changes have been made to the LCDs. Revision Effective Date: 10/31/2014 COVERAGE INDICATIONS, LIMITATIONS AND/OR MEDICAL NECESSITY: Revised: Standard Documentation Language to add covered prior to a beneficiary’s Medicare eligibility Revised: Diagnosis code references DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS: Revised: Standard Documentation Language to add who can enter date of delivery date on the POD Added: Instructions for Equipment Retained from a Prior Payer Added: Repair/Replacement section Revised: Diagnosis code references</td>
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### Associated Documents

- **Attachments**: N/A
- **Related Local Coverage Documents Article(s)**: [A55426 - Standard Documentation Requirements for All Claims Submitted to DME MACs](A52519 - Suction Pumps - Policy Article)
- **Related National Coverage Documents**: N/A

Public Version(s) Updated on 05/10/2017 with effective dates 01/01/2017 - N/A Updated on 06/07/2016 with effective dates 07/01/2016 - 12/31/2016 Updated on 04/24/2015 with effective dates 10/01/2015 - 06/30/2016 Updated on 04/04/2014 with effective dates 10/01/2015 - N/A

### Keywords

N/A Read the [LCD Disclaimer](https://www.dme-mac.lmha.hhs.gov/telemeddisclaimer)
END OF LOCAL COVERAGE DETERMINATION
Per the Code of Federal Regulations, 42 C.F.R § 426.325, only those portions of the currently effective Local Coverage Determination (LCD) that are based on section 1862(a)(1)(A) of the Social Security Act, may be challenged through an acceptable complaint as described in 42 C.F.R § 426.400. Also, per 42 C.F.R § 426.325 items that are not reviewable, and therefore cannot be challenged, include the Policy Article. Please note the distinction of the documents when reviewing the materials.
Local Coverage Article:
Suction Pumps - Policy Article (A52519)

Links in PDF documents are not guaranteed to work. To follow a web link, please use the MCD Website.

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Article Information

General Information

**Article ID**
A52519

**Original Article Effective Date**
10/01/2015

**Original ICD-9 Article ID**
A51298
A24142
A47084
A25376

**Revision Effective Date**
01/01/2017

**Revision Ending Date**
N/A

**Retirement Date**
N/A

**Article Title**
Suction Pumps - Policy Article

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Article Guidance

Article Text:

NON-MEDICAL NECESSITY COVERAGE AND PAYMENT RULES
For any item to be covered by Medicare, it must 1) be eligible for a defined Medicare benefit category, 2) be reasonable and necessary for the diagnosis or treatment of illness or injury or to improve the functioning of a malformed body member, and 3) meet all other applicable Medicare statutory and regulatory requirements. Information provided in this policy article relates to determinations other than those based on Social Security Act §1862(a)(1)(A) provisions (i.e. “reasonable and necessary”).

Suction equipment is covered under the Durable Medical Equipment benefit (Social Security Act §1861(s)(6)). In order for a beneficiary’s equipment to be eligible for reimbursement the reasonable and necessary (R&N) requirements set out in the related Local Coverage Determination must be met. In addition, there are specific statutory payment policy requirements, discussed below, that also must be met.

Saline used for tracheal lavage is a noncovered supply.

All items used with any suction pump, such as tracheal suction catheters (A4605, A4624), sterile water, saline used for suctioning (A4216, A4217), dressings, gastric tubes, etc. (not all-inclusive) are considered to be supplies for durable medical equipment. Therefore, when supplied to beneficiaries in nursing facilities, Place of Service Codes 31 and 32, they will be denied as noncovered as DME items are statutorily excluded from payment in facilities.

Disposable wound suction devices (A9270, A9272) and related supplies will be denied as statutorily noncovered because they do not meet the DME benefit durability requirement.

**POLICY SPECIFIC DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS**

In addition to policy specific documentation requirements, there are general documentation requirements that are applicable to all DMEPOS policies. These general requirements are located in the DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS section of the LCD.

Refer to the LCD-related Standard Documentation Requirements article, located at the bottom of this Policy Article under the Related Local Coverage Documents section for additional information regarding GENERAL DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS and the POLICY SPECIFIC DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS discussed below.

When billing HCPCS code(s) A4605 and/or A4624 for beneficiaries with a tracheostomy, the diagnosis code indicating tracheostomy status must be entered on the claim form.

When billing HCPCS code(s) E0600, A7002 and A7047, the diagnosis code(s) for the condition(s) that justify the need for the item(s) must be entered on the claim form.

**CODING GUIDELINES**

A portable or stationary home model respiratory suction pump (E0600) is an electric aspirator designed for oropharyngeal and tracheal suction. This code also includes devices designed for purposes other than the removal of secretions. One example is a device used to apply suction via a mouthpiece to increase the size of the airway as a treatment for obstructive sleep apnea (Winx® (Apnicure) or similar systems).

A portable or stationary home model gastric suction pump (E2000) is an electric aspirator designed to remove gastrointestinal secretions.

A closed system tracheal suction catheter (A4605) is a type of suction catheter that is protected by an outer sheath. It is connected to the ventilator circuit of a patient on mechanical ventilation and left in place. Suctioning is accomplished without disconnection from ventilation.

A tracheal suction catheter (A4624) is a long, flexible catheter.

An oropharyngeal catheter (A4628) is a short, rigid (usually) plastic catheter of durable construction.

An oral interface (A7047) is used as part of the Winx® (Apnicure) or similar systems. This code is not to be used for oral appliances used to treat OSA or for any other type of oral suction appliances. Do not use the oral appliance HCPCS codes E0485 or E0486 for this interface.

Wound suction is provided with an integrated system of components. This system contains a pump (K0743) and dressing sets (K0744 – K0746). It does not include a separate collection canister (A7000), a defining component of Negative Pressure Wound Therapy (NPWT). Instead, exudate is retained in the dressing materials. Wound suction systems that do not contain all of the required components are not classified as wound suction systems.
See below for component specifications.

Code K0743 describes a suction pump for wounds which provides controlled subatmospheric pressure that is designed for use with dressings, (K0744 – K0746) without a canister.

Codes K0744-K0746 describe an allowance for dressing sets which are used in conjunction with a stationary or portable suction pump (K0743) but not used with a canister. Each of these codes (K0744 – K0746) is used for a single, complete dressing change, and contains all necessary components, including but not limited to non-adherent porous dressing, drainage tubing, and an occlusive dressing which creates a seal around the wound site for maintaining subatmospheric pressure at the wound. These dressing sets are selected based upon wound size using the smallest size necessary to cover the wound. For multiple wounds located close together, a single large dressing must be used rather than multiple smaller dressing sets if it is possible to fit the wounds under a single larger dressing set.

Code A9272 describes a disposable wound suction device. Suction is developed through the use of any type of mechanism. This device includes all components, accessories and dressings. Examples (not all-inclusive) include SNaP (Spiracure), PICO (Smith and Nephew), VAC Via (KCI). Disposable wound suction items other than those coded as A9272 must be coded A9270 (noncovered item or service). For example, an elastomeric suction device would be correctly coded A9270.

Supplies used with disposable wound suction systems must be coded as A9270 (noncovered item or service). For example, supplies (tubing, dressings, etc.) used with an elastomeric suction device would be correctly coded A9270.

The only products which may be billed using codes K0743 are those for which a written Coding Verification Review has been made by the Pricing, Data Analysis and Coding (PDAC) Contractor and subsequently published on the appropriate Product Classification List.

Suppliers should contact the PDAC Contractor for guidance on the correct coding of these items.

Coding Information

Bill Type Codes:

Contractors may specify Bill Types to help providers identify those Bill Types typically used to report this service. Absence of a Bill Type does not guarantee that the article does not apply to that Bill Type. Complete absence of all Bill Types indicates that coverage is not influenced by Bill Type and the article should be assumed to apply equally to all claims.

N/A

Revenue Codes:

Contractors may specify Revenue Codes to help providers identify those Revenue Codes typically used to report this service. In most instances Revenue Codes are purely advisory. Unless specified in the article, services reported under other Revenue Codes are equally subject to this coverage determination. Complete absence of all Revenue Codes indicates that coverage is not influenced by Revenue Code and the article should be assumed to apply equally to all Revenue Codes.

N/A

CPT/HCPCS Codes N/A

ICD-10 Codes that are Covered N/A

ICD-10 Codes that are Not Covered N/A
Revision Effective Date: 01/01/2017
POLICY SPECIFIC DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS:
Added: Billing requirements
RELATED LOCAL COVERAGE DOCUMENTS:
Added: LCD-related Standard Documentation Requirements Language Article
Effective July 1, 2016 oversight for DME MAC Articles is the responsibility of CGS Administrators, LLC 18003 and 17013 and Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC 19003 and 16013. No other changes have been made to the Articles.

Related Local Coverage Document(s) Article(s) A55426 - Standard Documentation Requirements for All Claims Submitted to DME MACs LCD(s) L33612 - Suction Pumps

Related National Coverage Document(s) N/A

Statutory Requirements URL(s) N/A

Rules and Regulations URL(s) N/A

CMS Manual Explanations URL(s) N/A

Other URL(s) N/A

Public Version(s) Updated on 05/10/2017 with effective dates 01/01/2017 - N/A Updated on 06/07/2016 with effective dates 07/01/2016 - N/A Updated on 04/04/2014 with effective dates 10/01/2015 - N/A

Keywords
N/A Read the Article Disclaimer