

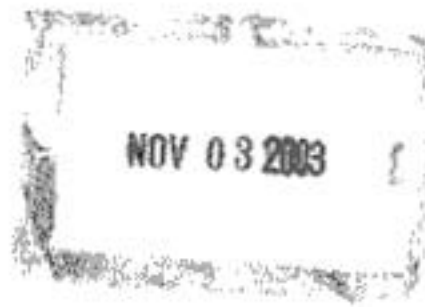


**MEDICARE**

Part A Intermediary  
Part B Carrier  
DME Regional Carrier

October 23, 2003

Larry Schwartz  
Apex Foot Health Industries, Inc.  
414 Alfred Avenue  
Teaneck, NJ 07666



Re: Ariya Shoe (Models Y500, Y540, Y550, Y560, Y600)

Dear Mr. Schwartz:

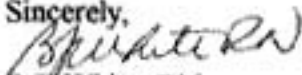
The SADMERC and the four Durable Medical Equipment Regional Carriers (DMERCs) have completed the HCPCS Coding Verification Review on October 22, 2003 for the above listed product manufactured by your company. This review resulted in a consensus coding decision.

It is our determination that the Ariya Shoe (Models Y500, Y540, Y550, Y560, Y600) meets the description and characteristics of the HCPCS code for therapeutic shoes as defined in the DMERC Medical Policy for Therapeutic Shoes for Persons with Diabetes. Therefore, the correct Medicare billing code for this product is

**A5500 For diabetics only, fitting (including follow-up) custom preparation and supply of off-the-shelf depth-inlay shoe manufactured to accommodate multi-density insert(s), per shoe for all models**

This HCPCS coding decision applies to your product as it was presented to and reviewed by the SADMERC and four DMERCs. Any modifications to this product could change the HCPCS code and would need to be reviewed for coding verification. The assignment of a HCPCS code to this product should in no way be construed as an approval or endorsement of this product by SADMERC or Medicare, nor does it imply or guarantee claim reimbursement or coverage. For questions regarding claim coverage or reimbursement please contact your regional DMERC.

If you have any questions regarding this coding decision, please contact me at the address below or by telephone at (803) 763-8225.

Sincerely,  
  
B.J. White, RN  
HCPCS medical Analyst  
SADMERC

cc: DMERCs