

o Special dietary supplements used for tube feeding or oral feeding, such as elemental high nitrogen diet, even if written as a prescription item by a physician, because these supplements have been classified by the Food and Drug Administration as a food rather than a drug.

EXCEPTION: To facilitate accurate and equitable cost apportionment within a single hospital-SNF complex where both components have customarily followed a uniform charging practice, the same classification of items and services as routine or ancillary may continue to be used by a participating hospital-based SNF as is used by the related hospital for Medicare reimbursement purposes.

**2203.2 Ancillary Services in SNFs.**--Items and services (other than the types classified as routine services in §2203.1) may be considered ancillary in an SNF if charges for them meet the requirements of §2203 for recognition of ancillary charges and if they are:

- o Direct identifiable services to individual patients, and
- o Not generally furnished to most patients, and
- o One of the following:
  - Not reusable, e.g., artificial limbs and organs, braces, intravenous fluids or solutions, oxygen (including medications), disposable catheters;
  - Represent a cost for each preparation, e.g., catheters and related equipment, colostomy bags, drainage equipment, trays and tubing;
  - Complex medical equipment, e.g., ventilators; or
  - Support surfaces. The support surfaces which are classified as ancillary are those listed under the Durable Medical Equipment Regional Carrier's (DMERC) level 2 and level 3 support surfaces categories. For example, support surfaces which qualify under DMERC's level 2 support surface criteria are low air loss mattress replacement and overlay systems. An example of support surfaces which qualify under DMERC's level 3 support surface criteria is air fluidized therapy.

NOTE: Items listed in the DMERC level 1 support surface criteria do not qualify for this category because they are inexpensive and common enough to be considered routine services in all cases.