



COMMISSIONER
Jon Weizenbaum

Date August 3, 2016
To: Emergency Response Service (ERS) Providers
Subject: Information Letter No. 16-30
Emergency Response Service Delivery Equipment Options

As a requirement of [Texas Administrative Code, Title 40, Part 1, Chapter 52, §52.201](#), an Emergency Response Service (ERS) provider must have emergency monitoring capability 24/7 and must be able to produce:

- a printed record of the type of alarm code (test, accidental, or emergency);
- the unit subscriber number; and
- the date and time of the activated alarm in seconds.

Some ERS providers use alternative delivery equipment to deliver ERS services in addition to traditional landline based ERS equipment. These alternatives include:

- a cellular home-based ERS system for individuals with no landline but with a cellular connection;
- a mobile ERS device individuals take with them that uses a cellular connection and a 911 locator tower connection where coverage is poor;
- a fall detection pendant, such as Auto Alert, in conjunction with the cellular or landline home-based ERS unit; or
- a Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP).

Providers continue to use the appropriate National Billing Codes (HCPC) for Emergency Response Services-Initial Month-S5160, Ongoing Month-S5161 or All Services-S5162 to bill using the provider's current unit rate for services for the various types of alternate delivery equipment. Providers must work with individuals to help select the preferred service delivery method to best meets their needs.

Any questions regarding billing may be directed to the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services regional Claims Management System coordinator. Questions regarding the policy in this letter may be sent to the ERS program mailbox at: ers@dads.state.tx.us.

Sincerely,

[signature on file]

S. Michelle Martin
Director
Center for Policy and Innovation

[signature on file]

Elisa J. Garza
Assistant Commissioner
Access and Intake