114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION  

H. R. 1516

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage and payment for complex rehabilitation technology items under the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
MARCH 19, 2015

Mr. SENSENBRENNER (for himself and Mr. CROWLEY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage and payment for complex rehabilitation technology items under the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

2 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

3 This Act may be cited as the “Ensuring Access to Quality Complex Rehabilitation Technology Act of 2015”.

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SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Individuals with disabilities and significant medical conditions such as Cerebral Palsy, Muscular Dystrophy, Multiple Sclerosis, Spinal Cord Injury, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, and Spina Bifida experience physical, functional, and cognitive challenges every day.

(2) Complex rehabilitation technology items (in this Act referred to as “CRT items”), including products such as complex rehabilitation power wheelchairs, highly configurable manual wheelchairs, adaptive seating and positioning systems, and other specialized equipment, such as standing frames and gait trainers, enable individuals to maximize their function and minimize the extent and costs of their medical care.

(3) Access to CRT items and related services can be threatened by inadequate coding, coverage, and payment policies for such items and services. These policies have restricted access to existing complex rehabilitation technology and stifled innovation. Access challenges have increased over the past several years and, without meaningful change to these policies, will only become greater in the future.
(4) Current Medicare policies often fail to adequately address the needs of individuals with disabilities, to consider the range of services furnished by complex rehabilitation technology suppliers, and to recognize and account for the complexity and unique nature of the equipment itself.

(5) A significant factor responsible for such access challenges is that individually-configurable CRT items do not have a distinct payment category under the Medicare program, but instead are classified within the broad category of durable medical equipment (DME). CRT items serve patients with serious medical conditions that require a broader range of services and specialized personnel than what is required for standard DME. Individually configured CRT items also require more resources in the areas of configuring, training, and education to ensure appropriate use and to optimize results.

(6) Unlike most DME, a medical model incorporating an interdisciplinary team approach is necessary to ensure proper individual configuration and use of a CRT item. This team typically includes a physician, a licensed physical or licensed occupational therapist (with no financial relationship with the CRT supplier), a qualified CRT professional, the
individual using such item, and sometimes a care-
giver for such individual.

(7) The Medicare program should recognize the
specialized nature of the CRT service delivery model,
the required supporting processes and technology-re-
lated CRT services, the credentials and competencies
needed by the providing suppliers and critical staff,
and the related costs involved. A separate benefit
category for CRT items would allow for unique cod-
ing, coverage, and payment rules and policies that
address the unique needs of persons with disabilities
and acknowledge the extensive service component.

(8) Congress and the Centers for Medicare &
Medicaid Services have previously recognized the
benefits of a separate classification for unique, indi-
vividually configured products. In 2008, Congress ex-
empted certain CRT items from inclusion in the
Medicare DME competitive bidding program, and
Congress has created a separate and distinct benefit
category for orthotics and prosthetics (custom braces
and artificial limbs), which have their own medical
policies, accreditation standards, and payment cal-
culations.
SEC. 3. ESTABLISHING SEPARATE BENEFIT CATEGORY FOR
COMPLEX REHABILITATION TECHNOLOGIES
WITHIN MEDICARE.

(a) New Category.—Section 1861 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x) is amended—

(1) in subsection (s)(2)—

(A) in subparagraph (EE), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (FF), by inserting “and” at the end; and

(C) by inserting after subparagraph (FF) the following new paragraph:

“(GG) complex rehabilitation technology items (as defined in subsection (iii))”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“Complex Rehabilitation Technology Item

“(iii)(1) The terms ‘complex rehabilitation technology item’ and ‘CRT item’ mean an item that—

“(A) is designed or individually configured for a specific qualified individual to meet the individual’s unique—

“(i) medical, physical, or functional needs related to a medical condition; and

“(ii) capacities for basic activities of daily living or instrumental activities of daily living;
“(B) is primarily used to serve a medical or functional purpose and is generally not useful to a person in the absence of illness or injury; and

“(C) requires certain services to ensure appropriate design, configuration, and use of such item, including—

“(i) an evaluation of needs and capacities and matching of the features and functions of CRT items to the qualified individual who will use such an item; and

“(ii) configuring, fitting, programming, adjusting, or adapting the particular complex rehabilitation technology item for use by such individual.

“(2)(A) The Secretary, in consultation with the Director of Office on Disability, the Chairman of the National Council on Disability, the Executive Director on the Interagency Committee on Disability, the Director of the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research of the Department of Education, and the Co-Chairmen of the Senior Oversight Committee’s Care Management Reform Team of the Department of Defense and the Veterans Administration, shall, by regulation—

“(i) designate items as complex rehabilitation technology items; and
“(ii) establish eligibility criteria to determine if an individual is a qualified individual based on the level of physical and functional needs and capacities related to a medical condition or conditions described in subparagraph (E).

“(C)(i) The items designated as complex rehabilitation technology items under subparagraph (A)(i) shall include each item that—

“(I) as of January 1, 2015, was classified within the HCPCS codes under clause (ii); and

“(II) the Secretary, acting in consultation with suppliers and manufacturers of CRT items, determines which items should be removed from such code and assigned a new HCPCS code because such item is a complex rehabilitation technology item.


“(D) The Secretary may not designate as a complex rehabilitation technology item—

“(i) adaptive equipment to operate motor vehicles;

“(ii) prosthetic devices described in subsection (s)(8); or

“(iii) orthotics and prosthetics described in subsection (s)(9).
“(E) The Secretary shall publish guidelines and implement a process to facilitate the submission of comprehensive coding proposals addressing CRT items to be submitted to the CMS HCPCS Work Group and included in the HCPCS Work Group public meetings.

“(F) In establishing the eligibility criteria under subparagraph (A)(ii), the Secretary shall include appropriate physical and functional needs and capacities arising from any of the following medical conditions:

“(i) Congenital disorders, progressive or degenerative neuromuscular diseases, or injuries or trauma that result in significant physical or functional needs and capacities.

“(ii) Spinal cord injury, traumatic brain injury, cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, spina bifida, osteogenesis imperfecta, arthrogryposis, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, multiple sclerosis, demyelinating disease, myelopathy, myopathy, progressive muscular atrophy, anterior horn cell disease, post-polio syndrome, cerebellar degeneration, dystonia, Huntington’s disease, or spinocerebellar disease.

“(iii) Certain types of amputation, paralysis, or paresis that result in significant physical or functional needs and capacities.

“(G)(i) For 2016, the Secretary shall publish—
“(I) a list of items designated under subparagraph (A)(i) and the HCPCS codes for such items; and

“(II) the eligibility criteria established under subparagraph (A)(ii).

“(ii) For 2017 and each subsequent year, the Secretary shall publish any necessary updates to such list (including additions of new CRT items and any changes in applicable HCPCS codes) and to such eligibility criteria.

“(H) The Secretary shall make available, on a public Web site, the process by which the Secretary will consider requests from members of the public that the Secretary—

“(i) designate an item as a CRT item under subparagraph (A)(i); or

“(ii) amend the eligibility criteria established under subparagraph (A)(ii).

“(3) For purposes of this subsection:

“(A) The term ‘capacity for basic activities of daily living’ means an individual’s capacity to safely participate in mobility and self-care activities including—

“(i) maintaining and changing body position;

“(ii) transferring to or from one surface to another;
“(iii) walking;
“(iv) moving from place to place using mobility equipment, in a safe and timely manner;
“(v) washing one’s self;
“(vi) caring for the body;
“(vii) toileting;
“(viii) dressing;
“(ix) eating;
“(x) drinking;
“(xi) looking after one’s health; and
“(xii) carrying, moving, and handling objects to perform and participate in other activities under this subparagraph and subparagraph (B).

“(B) The term ‘capacity for instrumental activities of daily living’ means an individual’s capacity to safely participate in life situations in the home and community, including—
“(i) communicating;
“(ii) moving around using transportation;
“(iii) acquiring necessities, goods, and services;
“(iv) performing household tasks;
“(v) caring for household members and family members;
“(vi) caring for household objects;
“(vii) engaging in education, work, employment and economic life; and
“(viii) participating in community, social, and civic activities.
“(C) The term ‘HCPCS’ refers to the Health Care Procedure Coding System.
“(D) The term ‘individually-configured’ means, with respect to an item, that—
“(i) the item has features, adjustments, or modifications specific to the individual who uses such item or the item is used in combination with other CRT items specific to the individual’s needs; and
“(ii) the supplier of such item must measure the individual and configure, fit, program, adjust, or adapt the item, as appropriate, so that the item is consistent with—
“(I) an assessment or evaluation of the individual by an appropriate licensed clinician;
“(II) the written order required under section 1834(r)(2)(B)(i); and
“(III) medical condition, physical and functional needs and capacities, and body
size of the individual who will use the item,
the period for which such individual will
need such item, and the intended use of
such item by such individual.

“(E) The term ‘qualified individual’ means an
individual who—

“(i) is enrolled under part B; and

“(ii) has physical and functional needs and
capacities that arise from a medical condition
that meet the eligibility criteria established by
the Secretary under paragraph (2)(A)(ii).”.

SEC. 4. PAYMENT RULES.

Section 1834 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
1395m) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(r) COVERAGE AND PAYMENT FOR CRT ITEMS.—

“(1) GENERAL RULE FOR PAYMENT.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than the
date that is one year after the date of the en-
actment of this subsection, subject to subpara-
graph (B), the Secretary shall determine a pay-
ment system that shall apply to CRT items—

“(i) with HCPCS codes that were as-
signed to the item under section
1861(iii)(2)(C)(i)(II);
“(ii) for which no HCPCS code was assigned prior to such date; or

“(iii) which, prior to such date, was classified under a miscellaneous HCPCS code.

“(B) CONSIDERATIONS.—In determining the payment system under subparagraph (A), the Secretary—

“(i) may disregard the freezes on CPI increases to the payment amounts for durable medical equipment that occurred before the date of the enactment of this subsection, when determining the payment amount for CRT items;

“(ii) shall ensure that the payment amounts for CRT items under such system are adequate to provide qualified individuals with access to such items and to encourage innovation, taking into account—

“(I) the unique needs of qualified individuals for access to CRT items;

“(II) the unique complexity of CRT items; and

“(III) the resources and staff needed to provide appropriate indi-
vidual configuration of CRT items for
a qualified individual; and
“(iii) shall provide that CRT codes
will be paid on a purchase basis with a
beneficiary rental basis option.
“(C) EXCLUSIVE PAYMENT RULE.—This
subsection shall constitute the exclusive provi-
sion of this title for payment for CRT items
under this part or under part A to a home
health agency.
“(D) LIMITATION ON PAYMENT.—No pay-
ment shall be made under this subsection for a
CRT item unless such CRT item—
“(i) is provided to a qualified indi-
vidual;
“(ii) meets the clinical conditions for
coverage established under paragraph (2);
and
“(iii) is furnished by a supplier ac-
credited pursuant to paragraph (3).
“(2) CLINICAL CONDITIONS FOR COVERAGE.—
“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
establish standards for clinical conditions for
payment for CRT items under this subsection.
“(B) REQUIREMENTS.—The standards established under subparagraph (A) shall require the following:

“(i) WRITTEN ORDER.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—A qualified ordering practitioner shall provide a written order for a CRT item for a qualified individual before the Secretary may provide payment for such item for such individual under this subsection.

“(II) CRT EVALUATION.—In the case of a CRT item that is categorized by the Secretary, for purposes of the program under this title, as a manual wheelchair or a power wheelchair, and is to be provided to a qualified individual who has a diagnosis specified under subparagraph (C), the qualified ordering practitioner may not provide a written order under subclause (I) unless the qualified individual has undergone a CRT evaluation conducted by a licensed physical therapist or occupational therapist.
who has no financial relationship with
the CRT supplier. The performance of
such a CRT evaluation by a licensed
physical or occupational therapist
shall not be subject (or counted to-
wards) the limitation on certain ther-
apy services under section 1833(g).

“(ii) DOCUMENTATION OF MEDICAL
NECESSITY.—A qualified ordering practi-
tioner who provides a written order under
clause (i) shall maintain documentation of
the medical necessity of such order for a
period of seven years and shall make such
documentation available to the Secretary
upon request. The documentation of med-
ical necessity under this clause shall in-
clude—

“(I) evidence that the individual
for whom the order was written has
physical and functional needs and ca-
pcities related to a medical condition
that meet the eligibility criteria estab-
lished under section 1861(iii)(2)(A)(ii); and
“(II) evidence of any CRT evaluation required under clause (i)(II).

“(C) Specification of diagnosis for CRT evaluation.—The Secretary, in consultation with relevant parties (including the agencies listed in section 1861(iii)(2)(A), physicians, licensed physical therapists, licensed occupational therapists, and suppliers of complex rehabilitation technologies) shall specify the diagnoses and other medical presentations for which the requirement for a CRT evaluation under subparagraph (B)(i)(II) shall apply.

“(D) Coverage determinations.—In developing the standards under subparagraph (A), the coverage of CRT items with respect to an individual shall be based on—

“(i) the specific medical, physical, and functional needs of the individual;

“(ii) the individual’s capacities for safe participation in basic activities of daily living and instrumental activities of daily living in all routinely encountered environments (as such terms are defined in section 1861(iii)(3)); and
“(iii) the individual’s expected progression of such needs and capacities.

“(E) Contractor Individualized Consideration.—The Secretary shall instruct Medicare contractors to provide individual consideration in cases that may lack one of the diagnoses identified, but that exhibit comparable functional presentations or deficits or (or both) and where the need for CRT items has been documented by the qualified clinical professional.

“(F) Payment for Residents of Skilled Nursing Facilities.—In the case of a qualified individual who is a resident of a skilled nursing facility, payment may only be made under this subsection for a CRT item for such individual if such CRT item is required as part of a plan of care to allow the transition of such individual from the skilled nursing facility to a home or community setting.

“(3) Establishment of Quality Standards.—

“(A) Establishment.—The Secretary shall establish, through regulation, quality standards for suppliers of CRT items. Such
standards shall be applied prospectively and
shall be published on the Internet Web site of
the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Serv-
ices.

“(B) CONSULTATION.—In establishing the
quality standards under subparagraph (A), the
Secretary shall consult with relevant parties (in-
cluding clinicians, consumer groups, suppliers,
and manufacturers).

“(C) REQUIREMENTS OF STANDARDS.—In
establishing the quality standards under sub-
paragraph (A), the Secretary shall require that
the suppliers of CRT items meet the following
requirements:

“(i) DME STANDARDS.—The supplier
complies with all of the standards that are
applicable to suppliers of durable medical
equipment under subsection (a)(20) and
suppliers of medical equipment and sup-
plies under subsection (j).

“(ii) QUALIFIED CRT PROFESSIONAL.—The supplier of a CRT item
makes available, in each service area
served by such supplier, at least one quali-
fied CRT professional to—
“(I) analyze the needs and capacities of individuals for a CRT item in collaboration with the clinical team;

“(II) assist in selecting an appropriate CRT item for such individual, given such needs and capacities; and

“(III) provide technology-related training to such individual in the proper use and maintenance of the CRT items.

“(iii) TRIAL EQUIPMENT.—The supplier of the CRT item provides the qualified individual with appropriate equipment for trial and simulation, if a physician, licensed physical therapist, or licensed occupational therapist determines that the provision of such equipment is necessary.

“(iv) INFORMATION ON SERVICE AND REPAIR.—The supplier of the CRT item provides the qualified individual with written information on accessing service and repair for the CRT item before the CRT item is ordered for the individual.

“(v) REPAIR.—The supplier of a CRT item—
“(I) makes available, in each service area served by such supplier, at least one qualified CRT service technician to service and repair CRT items that—

“(aa) are furnished by such supplier; and

“(bb) at the time of the need for repair, are located in a service area of the supplier; or

“(II) if the qualified individual lives outside the service area served by such supplier at the time of order of the CRT item, the supplier shall disclose in writing to the qualified individual that the supplier does not provide repair service for such item and provide contact information for entities that do provide such repair service.

“(vi) Rental equipment.—If payment is allowed under paragraph (6), the supplier of the CRT item provides temporary rental equipment to the qualified individual when the supplier is repairing a
qualified individual’s CRT item that was
paid for under this subsection.

“(4) APPLICATION OF STANDARDS AND AC-
cREDITATION PROGRAM FOR SUPPLIERS OF CRT
ITEMS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—

“(i) REQUIREMENT FOR PROVIDER OR
SUPPLIER NUMBER.—The Secretary shall
not provide a supplier of CRT items with
a provider or supplier number to submit
claims for payment under this title unless
the supplier is in compliance with the
standards under paragraph (3).

“(ii) REQUIREMENT FOR PAYMENT.—
Payment shall not be made under this part
for CRT items furnished by a supplier un-
less the supplier is in compliance with the
standards under paragraph (3).

“(B) APPLICATION OF ACCREDITATION RE-
QUIREMENT.—In implementing quality stand-
ards under paragraph (3), the Secretary shall
require suppliers furnishing CRT items, on or
after one year after the standards are published
under such paragraph, directly or as a subcon-
tractor for another entity—
“(i) to comply with such standards;
and
“(ii) to have submitted to the Secretary evidence of accreditation by an accreditation organization designated under subparagraph (C) demonstrating that the supplier is complying with such standards.

“(C) DESIGNATION OF INDEPENDENT ACCREDITATION ORGANIZATIONS.—Not later than the date that is one year after the date on which the Secretary implements the quality standards under paragraph (3), the Secretary shall designate and approve one or more independent accreditation organizations that—

“(i) are approved under subsection (a)(20)(B); and
“(ii) the Secretary has determined have the capability to assess whether suppliers of CRT items meet the quality standards established under paragraph (3).

“(5) CODING SYSTEM FOR COMPLEX REHABILITATION TECHNOLOGIES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall, in consultation with suppliers and manufacturers of CRT items, establish a formal process to
allow submission of CRT code set modification requests by stakeholder groups for comprehensive coding changes related to entire policy groups. This process shall include a specific application, public meeting participation and an appeals process. The Secretary shall then, in consultation with suppliers and manufacturers of CRT items, establish a HCPCS coding subset that shall utilize and include HCPCS codes described in section 1861(iii)(2) for CRT items for which payment may be made under this subsection.

“(B) TREATMENT OF EXISTING PRODUCTS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—With respect to CRT items for which payment was available under this title before the effective date of the amendments made by Ensuring Access to Quality Complex Rehabilitation Technology Act of 2015, the Secretary shall assign such items to a code in the coding subset established under subparagraph (A).

“(ii) UPDATES.—After the initial assignment under clause (i), the Secretary
may decide to reassign additional product categories, or items within those categories, that exist before the date of the enactment of this subsection to the CRT coding subset.

“(iii) CONSULTATION.—Before making reassignments of CRT items under clause (ii), the Secretary shall consult with suppliers and manufacturers of such items. The Secretary shall not require manufacturers of CRT items for which payment was available under this title before the effective date of the amendments made by the Ensuring Access to Quality Complex Rehabilitation Technology Act of 2015 to submit requests for reassignment of the code for such product to the coding subset under subparagraph (A) as long as—

“(I) no changes have been made to the code definitions, required code characteristics or test requirements; and

“(II) the item was previously verified to meet the code requirements.
“(C) REMOVING COMPLEX REHABILITA-
TION TECHNOLOGY FROM DME CODES.—The
Secretary shall, in consultation with suppliers
and manufacturers of CRT items—

“(i) remove from the coding subset for
durable medical equipment any CRT items
that are included in the coding subset
under subparagraph (A); and

“(ii) assign new codes to such CRT
items based on technological differences to
support adequate access to meet clinical
outcomes and for purposes of including
such items in the subset under subpara-
graph (A).

“(D) NEW TECHNOLOGY.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary
shall update as needed the HCPCS level II
process used to modify the code set to in-
clude CRT items for the purposes of estab-
lishing new codes and determining prod-
ucts to be classified as CRT items. In de-
termining if a product is a CRT item, the
Secretary shall consider—

“(I) if the product is novel;
“(II) the clinical application of the product; and

“(III) the ability of the product to address the unique needs and capacities of a qualified individual.

“(ii) INCLUSION OF CODES IN LIST.—

The Secretary shall include the codes established in clause (i) in the list under section 1861(iii)(2)(F).

“(E) MISCELLANEOUS CODE FOR INNOVATION AND LOCAL COVERAGE DETERMINATIONS.—The coding subset established under subparagraph (A) shall include at least one miscellaneous code for items not otherwise classified.

“(F) ESTABLISHMENT OF ADEQUATE HCPCS CODES TO REFLECT SPECIALIZED NATURE OF CRT.—The Secretary shall ensure that HCPCS codes exist (or are developed) to represent the specialized nature of CRT, including codes to represent custom CRT manual and power wheelchairs and modifications to CRT manual and power wheelchair frames, and miscellaneous codes for CRT manual and power wheelchairs that are otherwise classified.
“(6) REPLACEMENT OF CRT ITEMS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Payment shall be made for the replacement of a CRT item (or for the replacement of any part of such item) without regard to continuous use or useful lifetime restrictions established under section 1834(a)(7)(C) for items of durable medical equipment if a qualified ordering practitioner determines that the provision of a replacement item (or a replacement part of such an item) is necessary because—

“(i) there was a change in the physiological condition of the qualified individual to whom such item was provided;

“(ii) there was an irreparable change in the condition of the CRT item (or, in the case of the replacement of a part, in the part of the CRT item); or

“(iii) the CRT item requires repairs and the cost of such repairs would be more than 50 percent of the cost of a replacement of the CRT item.

“(B) DEFERRAL TO PROVIDERS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause (ii), if a qualified ordering practitioner de-
terminates that a replacement of the CRT item, or the replacement of a part of a CRT item, is necessary pursuant to sub-
paragraph (A), the replacement item or part is deemed to be reasonable and nec-
essary for purposes of section 1862(a)(1)(A).

“(ii) EXCEPTION FOR ITEMS UNDER 3 YEARS OLD.—If the CRT item that is being replaced (or the part of the CRT item that is being replaced) under subpara-
graph (A) is less than 3 years old (cal-
culated from the date on which the qualified individual began to use the CRT item or part), the Secretary may require the qualified ordering practitioner to provide confirmation of necessity of the replace-
ment item or replacement part, as the case may be.

“(7) PAYMENT FOR TEMPORARY RENTAL.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—If a CRT item owned by a qualified individual needs to be repaired, payment may be made under this subsection for the temporary rental of a CRT item while the
CRT item owned by such individual is being repaired.

“(B) BASIS; LIMITATION.—Payment permitted under subparagraph (A) shall be made on a monthly basis, and the period of rental may not exceed two months.

“(C) PAYMENT AMOUNT.—The amount of payment allowed under subparagraph (A) for a month for the rental of a CRT item shall be 10 percent of the purchase price for the CRT item.

“(8) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this subsection:

“(A) HCPCS.—The term ‘HCPCS’ refers to the Health Care Procedure Coding System.

“(B) QUALIFIED CRT PROFESSIONAL.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘qualified CRT professional’ means an individual who—

“(I) is certified by the Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America as an assistive technology professional or is certified by another organization designated by the Secretary (acting in consultation with relevant parties) as
providing a certification that is equivalent to, or more stringent than, the assistive technology professional certification; and

“(II) beginning two years after the establishment of the designation under clause (ii), achieves an additional designation that demonstrates the individual’s competencies and experience in supplying CRT items.

“(ii) Establishment.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this subsection, the Secretary, acting in consultation with relevant parties, shall establish the additional designation under clause (i)(II).

“(iii) Relevant Parties.—For purposes of this subparagraph, the term ‘relevant parties’ includes clinicians, consumer groups, CRT suppliers, and CRT manufacturers.

“(C) Qualified CRT Service Technician.—The term ‘qualified CRT service technician’ means an individual who—
“(i) is factory-trained by the manufacturers of the CRT items being offered by
the supplier of such items;

“(ii) is trained and educated (including through on-the-job training) to assem-
ble, fit, program, service, and repair CRT items; and

“(iii) on an annual basis, completes at
least 10 hours of continuing education spe-
cific to the assembly, fitting, programming,

service, and repair of CRT items.

“(D) QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL.—The term
‘qualified individual’ has the meaning given
such term in section 1861(iii)(3)(E).

“(E) QUALIFIED ORDERING PRACTI-
tioner.—The term ‘qualified ordering practi-
tioner’ means a physician (as defined in section
1861(r)), a physician assistant, nurse practi-
tioner, or a clinical nurse specialist (as those
terms are defined in section 1861(aa)(5)).

“(F) QUALIFIED LICENSED CLINICIAN.—
The term ‘qualified licensed clinician’ means a
licensed physical therapist or occupational ther-
apist or physician who possesses specialized
training and experience in providing seating
and mobility services and the skills to perform
all aspects of the evaluation described in para-
graph (2)(B)(i)(II).”.

SEC. 5. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(a) EXCLUSION FROM THE IN-HOME USE LIMITA-
TION FOR DME.—Section 1861(n) of the Social Security
Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(n)) is amended by adding at the
end the following: “For 2016 and subsequent years, such
term does not include complex rehabilitation technologies
(as defined in subsection (iii)).”.

(b) EXEMPTION FROM COMPETITIVE ACQUISI-
TION.—Section 1847(a)(7) of the Social Security Act (42
U.S.C. 1395w–3(a)(7)) is amended by adding at the end
the following new subparagraph:

“(C) CRT ITEMS.—For 2016 and subse-
quent years, complex rehabilitation technology
items (as defined in section 1861(iii)).”.

(c) EXEMPTION FROM SNF CONSOLIDATED BILL-
ING.—Section 1888(e)(2)(A)(iii) of the Social Security Act
(42 U.S.C. 1395yy(e)(2)(A)(iii)) is amended by adding at
the end the following:

“(VI) Complex rehabilitation
technology items (as defined in section
1861(iii)) if delivered to an inpatient
for use during the stay in the skilled
nursing facility as part of the plan of care to allow the transition of such qualified individuals from the skilled nursing facility setting to the home and community.”.

(d) PAYMENT EXCLUSIONS.—Section 1834(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (4), by adding at the end the following sentence “For 2016 and subsequent years, the items covered by this paragraph shall not include complex rehabilitation technology items (as defined in section 1861(iii)).”; and

(2) in paragraph (7)(A), by adding at the end the following: “For fiscal year 2016 and subsequent years, the previous sentence shall not apply to power-driven wheelchairs that are designated as CRT items under section 1861(iii).”; and

(3) in paragraph (16), by inserting at the end the following: “The Secretary shall impose (and, may, as allowed by the second sentence of this paragraph, waive) the requirements of the first sentence of this paragraph to suppliers of complex rehabilitation technology items, except that, in order to avoid duplicate bonds, the Secretary shall not impose such requirements with respect to suppliers of complex re-
habilitation technology items if such suppliers also
participate in the Medicare program as suppliers of
durable medical equipment.”.

(e) REQUIREMENTS FOR SUPPLIERS OF MEDICAL
EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES.—Section 1834(j)(5) of the
Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m(j)(5)) is amend-
ed—

(1) by redesignating subparagraphs (E) and
(F) as subparagraphs (F) and (G), respectively;

(2) by inserting after subparagraph (D) the fol-
lowing new subparagraph:

“(E) complex rehabilitation technology
items (as defined in section 1861(iii));”.

SEC. 6. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The amendments made by this Act shall apply to
items and services furnished on or after January 1, 2016.