

PROVIDER BULLETIN

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SCHOOL BASED SERVICES BULLETIN

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EXPANDED SCHOOL BASED SERVICES

Effective with dates of service on or after August 1, 2010, the MO HealthNet Division (MHD) will expand the services included in the school based services program. School districts currently seek reimbursement for occupational therapy (OT), physical therapy (PT), and speech therapy (ST) identified in a child's Individual Education Plan (IEP). The expansion of school based services will include hearing aid (audiology), personal care, private duty nursing and psychology/counseling services identified in the child's IEP. This program expansion will allow for the school to receive the federal match portion of the funds allocated for these IEP services. Only the services identified in the IEP and up to the amount and duration identified in the IEP will be considered reimbursable. Medical services which are not identified in the child's IEP are still the responsibility of the school district and cannot be billed to MO HealthNet.

Each school district interested in billing MO HealthNet for school based services must enroll as a MO HealthNet provider. The school district will have to identify the services on the enrollment application. Information on how to enroll for school based services will be forthcoming in a future provider bulletin. While enrollment is not currently available, all enrollment applications will be back-dated to August 1, 2010. Once enrollment is complete, schools will be able to bill for services which meet program criteria from August 1, 2010 and forward.

OCCUPATIONAL, PHYSICAL AND SPEECH THERAPIES

Only school districts will be allowed to bill for occupational (OT), physical (PT) and speech (ST) therapy services in a school. Individual OT, PT, or ST providers will no longer be able to bill for therapy services provided in a school setting or scheduled during the school day if the therapy is included in a child's IEP. The covered therapy services that these therapy providers may provide in schools have not changed.

HEARING AID

Any hearing service currently covered under the MO HealthNet Hearing Aid program will be considered covered for school districts when identified in the child's IEP. These services are limited to those that are provided in the MO HealthNet Hearing Aid program and may only be delivered by a provider who meets licensing requirements for the program. These services may include testing, hearing aid repairs, etc. For example, a hearing aid dealer/fitter is limited to only the services that (s)he is licensed to provide: the construction and fitting of a hearing aid. However, an audiologist is able to deliver all hearing aid services under the MHD hearing aid program.

PERSONAL CARE

Personal care services are medically oriented tasks that are reviewed and approved or certified by a physician as the care necessary to meet a participant's physical needs. Personal care services are intended to meet personal, physical requirements. Covered Personal care services *must* be provided by a qualified individual, as defined in the Personal Care manual, who is *not* a member of the participant's family or household. The provider of personal care services *must* have a valid MO HealthNet Personal Care Provider Agreement in effect with the Department of Social Services (DSS), MO HealthNet Division (MHD). Personal care services must be provided by an agency approved by the Department of Health and Senior Services for in-home services or provided by a school when the aide meets the requirements outlined in 13 CSR 70-91.010.

NOTE: A family member is defined as a parent; sibling; child by blood, adoption, or marriage; spouse; grandparent; or grandchild.

School districts must follow the required staff supervision rules outlined in the MO HealthNet Personal Care provider manual and 13 CSR 70-91.010. The child's IEP is the prior authorization for school based personal care services. Services do not require prior authorization through the Department of Health and Senior Services. A medical plan must be developed based on the IEP and in place prior to services being rendered. All services must be logged and billing is based on the time spent providing a covered service. Observation and waiting time are not covered.

PRIVATE DUTY NURSING

Private duty nursing (PDN) is the provision of individual and continuous care (in contrast to part-time or intermittent care) provided by a licensed nurse acting within the scope of the Missouri Nurse Practice Act. Private duty nursing services *must* be provided under direction of the participant's physician.

The provider of private duty nursing services *must* have a valid MO HealthNet Private Duty Nursing Provider Agreement in effect with the Department of Social Services (DSS), MO HealthNet Division (MHD). Private Duty Nursing services must be provided by an agency or a school when the direct care staff meets the requirements outlined in 13 CSR 70-95.010.

School districts must follow the staff supervision rules outlined in the Private Duty Nursing manual and 13 CSR 70-95.010. The child's IEP is the prior authorization for school based private duty nursing services. Services do not require prior authorization through the Department of Health and Senior Services. A medical plan must be developed based on the IEP and in place prior to services being rendered. All services must be logged and billing is

based on the time spent providing a covered service. Observation and waiting time are not covered.

PSYCHOLOGY/COUNSELING

Mental health services may be covered by MO HealthNet when performed by a licensed psychiatrist, Psychiatric Clinical Nurse Specialist (PCNS), Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC), licensed or provisionally licensed psychologist, licensed or provisionally Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW), or a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP). These services may include, but are not limited to, assessment, psychological testing, individual therapy, and group therapy.

A person licensed by the state of Missouri as a licensed or provisionally licensed psychologist, psychiatrist, LPC, PCNS, LCSW, PMHNP or a physician with a specialty of psychiatry is considered a provider of these services. The MO HealthNet Program pays for approved Medicaid services for psychology/counseling services when furnished within the provider's scope of practice. Some of these services are currently being provided in a school setting, including evaluations, testing and treatment. The services will continue to be prior authorized and the IEP must specify that this medical service is required during the school day. It is required that the school district, as the billing provider, complete the authorization request, in order for services to be authorized.

Provider Bulletins are available on the MO HealthNet Division (MHD) (Formerly the Division of Medical Services) Web site at <http://dss.mo.gov/mhd/providers/pages/bulletins.htm>. Bulletins will remain on the Provider Bulletins page only until incorporated into the [provider manuals](#) as appropriate, then moved to the Archived Bulletin page.

MO HealthNet News: Providers and other interested parties are urged to go to the MHD Web site at <http://dss.missouri.gov/mhd/global/pages/mednewssubscribe.htm> to subscribe to the electronic mailing list to receive automatic notifications of provider bulletins, provider manual updates, and other official MO HealthNet communications via E-mail.

MO HealthNet Managed Care: The information contained in this bulletin applies to coverage for:

- MO HealthNet Fee-for-Service
- Services not included in MO HealthNet Managed Care

Questions regarding MO HealthNet Managed Care benefits should be directed to the patient's MO HealthNet Managed Care health plan. Before delivering a service, please check the patient's eligibility status by swiping the red MO HealthNet card or by calling the Interactive Voice Response (IVR) System at 573-635-8908 and using Option One for the red or white card.

**Provider Communications Hotline
573-751-2896**