

## PROVIDER BULLETIN

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# ASTHMA EDUCATION AND ASTHMA ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

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## NEW PEDIATRIC ASTHMA SERVICES

Evidence has shown that the combined provision of asthma education and asthma environmental assessments leads to better health outcomes in the pediatric population. To improve the health of MO HealthNet participants with asthma and to reduce costs associated with uncontrolled asthma, the MO HealthNet Division (MHD) is implementing a statewide **asthma education and asthma environmental assessment program**, effective for dates of service on or after February 1, 2017, for participants under 21 years of age who have evidence of uncontrolled asthma. Eligible participants will receive one hour of asthma education and two asthma environmental assessments annually.

## PATIENT ELIGIBILITY

For participants to be eligible for asthma education and asthma environmental assessment services the individual must meet the following criteria:

- Be currently enrolled in MO HealthNet, **and**
- Be younger than 21 years of age, **and**
- Have a primary diagnosis of asthma, **and**
- Have had one of the following events as a result of asthma in the last 12 months:
  - 1 or more Inpatient Hospital stays, **or**
  - 2 or more Emergency Department (ED) visits, **or**

- 3 or more Urgent Care visits, **or**
- A high utilization of rescue inhalers (short-acting inhaled beta-2 agonists) defined as 4 or more prescription refills, or underutilization of ICS (inhaled corticosteroids) defined as missing 4 or more refills based on their enrollment months, **and** at least one ED or Urgent Care visit.

## **PRIOR AUTHORIZATION**

Asthma education and asthma environmental assessments require a referral and/or a prescribed service in the participant's plan of care by a physician. The physician's authorized extenders and staff may help with the prior authorization process but the ordering provider must be the physician. All asthma education and asthma environmental assessment services will require a prior authorization. Refer to Section 8 of the physician's manual at [http://manuals.momed.com/collections/collection\\_phy/print.pdf](http://manuals.momed.com/collections/collection_phy/print.pdf) to review MHDs prior authorization policy.

All asthma education services must be provided in the patient's home, by providers who meet the qualifications described below.

## **PROVIDER QUALIFICATIONS**

Providers of asthma education services must be certified Asthma Educators. The provider must have a current National Asthma Educator Certification (AEC) or a Missouri state certification in order to provide asthma education services.

- Asthma educators will bill under the Disease Management provider type with an Asthma Education specialty.

Providers of asthma environmental assessments must be certified Asthma Environmental Assessors. The provider must have a national certification as a National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) Healthy Home Specialist, a NEHA Healthy Home Evaluator Micro-Credential, or a Missouri state certification.

- Asthma environmental assessors will bill under the provider type Disease Management with an In-Home Environmental Assessor specialty.

Providers should reference Missouri state regulation 13 CSR 70-3.260 for more details regarding certification.

## **PROVIDER ENROLLMENT**

If a certified provider is already enrolled with MO HealthNet, a Provider Update Request form should be submitted to the Missouri Medicaid Audit & Compliance (MMAC) Provider Enrollment Unit (PEU). The provider must complete Sections I and II on the Provider Update Request form and enter the specialty code that matches your title in Section IV. The Provider Update Request form is available at:

<http://mmac.mo.gov/providers/provider-enrollment/provider-enrollment-forms/>

If a certified provider is not already enrolled with MO HealthNet as a provider, an enrollment application must be submitted. The link to complete the electronic application is:

<https://peu.momed.com/peu//momed/presentation/commongui/PeHome.jsp>

Any questions regarding enrollment should be emailed to:

[MMAC.ProviderEnrollment@dss.mo.gov](mailto:MMAC.ProviderEnrollment@dss.mo.gov)

## **PROCEDURE CODES AND LIMITS**

The following table details the billable codes for asthma education and asthma environmental assessments. The annual limit of asthma education visits will be dependent on the codes used, but shall not exceed one (1) hour per year with the exception of one (1) 90- minute self-management session. Asthma educators may use a combination of codes S9441, 99401, and 99402 to bill for services, but may not bill over one hour, unless using code 98960. If code 98960 is billed, all other asthma education codes may not be billed.

<b>CPT Code</b>	<b>Code Description and Limits</b>	<b>Reimbursement Rate</b>
<b>Asthma Education</b>		
S9441	Asthma education non-physician  (MHD defines 30 minutes, one unit)  Maximum one hour per year	\$50.00 per unit
99401	Preventive medicine counseling, individual  (MHD defines 15 minutes, one unit)  Maximum one hour per year	\$25.00 per unit
99402	Preventive medicine counseling, individual  (MHD defines 30 minutes, one unit)  Maximum one hour per year	\$50.00 per unit
98960	Self-management education using standardized effective curriculum, individually, either incident to a clinical encounter or as preventive service  (MHD defines 90 minutes, one unit)  Maximum once per year	\$100.00 per session/unit
<b>Asthma Environmental Assessments</b>		
S9441 modifier SC	Asthma environmental assessment, non-physician  Maximum two times per year	\$125 per session/unit

Annual reimbursement for asthma education will not exceed a total of \$100. Annual reimbursement for environmental assessments will not exceed a total of \$250. Additional asthma education and environmental assessment requests beyond the initial allocation must be submitted as a new prior authorization request and must be deemed medically necessary.

### **PLACE OF SERVICE**

All asthma education and asthma environmental assessment services must take place in the participant's home.

The place of service (POS) code must be the following: 12 (Home).

### **RESOURCES FOR PROVIDERS**

MHD will partner with qualifying Missouri university-based centers that will maintain a statewide database of asthma educators and asthma environmental assessment providers for referring physicians to reference.

- The University of Missouri-Columbia will utilize their database to maintain a website with an up-to-date provider list of certified Asthma Educators. This website address will be provided in a future provider bulletin,
- The Southeast Missouri State University will utilize their database to maintain a website with an up-to-date provider list of certified Asthma Environmental Assessors. This website address will be provided in a future provider bulletin,

MHD will also maintain an up-to-date list of enrolled asthma educators and environmental assessors for providers to access on its website at:

<https://dssapp.dss.mo.gov/providerlist/sprovider.asp>.

### **MO HEALTHNET MANAGED CARE PARTICIPANTS**

Participants enrolled in a managed care health plan will receive asthma education and asthma environmental assessment services through their managed care organization effective January 1, 2017. Questions regarding MO HealthNet Managed Care benefits should be directed to the patient's MO HealthNet Managed Care health plan.

If you have questions about this bulletin, please contact the Provider Communications hotline at 573-751-2896.

**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 MO HealthNet card or by calling the Provider Communications Interactive Voice Response (IVR) System at 573-751-2896 and using Option One for the red or white card.

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