

PROVIDER BULLETIN

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Assistant Physician

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Assistant Physician

Senate Bill (SB) 716 passed by the 97th General Assembly allows an assistant physician (AP) to become a MO HealthNet provider while acting under a collaborative practice agreement with a licensed physician.

An AP is a medical school graduate who:

- has successfully completed Step 1 and Step 2 of the United States Medical Licensing Examination or the equivalent of such steps of any other board-approved medical licensing examination within the two-year period immediately preceding application for licensure as an AP, but in no event more than three years after;
- has not completed an approved postgraduate residency and has successfully completed Step 2 of the United States Medical Licensing Examination or the equivalent of such step of any other board-approved medical licensing examination within the immediately preceding two-year period, unless when such two-year anniversary occurred he or she was serving as a resident physician in an accredited residency in the United States and continued to do so within thirty days prior to application for licensure as an AP.

Supervision

An AP must have a collaborative practice arrangement with a licensed physician as referenced in Section 334.037 of the Missouri Revised Statutes. The collaborating physician is

responsible at all times for the oversight of the AP and accepts all responsibility for the primary care services provided by the AP.

Qualifications

An AP must be licensed by the Missouri Board of Healing Arts as set forth in 20 CSR 2150-2.200.

Scope of Practice

An AP may only provide primary care services within the scope of a collaborative practice arrangement. Primary care services are those identified by the following Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes:

- 99201 through 99215 for new and established patient office or other outpatient evaluation and management (E/M) visits;
- 99304 through 99340 for initial, subsequent, discharge, and other nursing facility E/M services; new and established patient domiciliary, rest home (e.g., boarding home), or custodial care E/M services; and domiciliary, rest home (e.g., assisted living facility), or home care plan oversight services; and
- 99341 through 99350 for new and established patient home E/M visits.

Collaborative practice arrangements, which shall be in writing, may delegate to an AP the authority to administer or dispense drugs and provide treatment as long as the delivery of such health care services is within the scope of practice of the AP, and is consistent with that AP's skill, training, and competence and the skill and training of the collaborating physician.

Provider Enrollment Information

For dates of service on or after January 1, 2018, an AP may enroll as a MO HealthNet provider but must submit claims for service reimbursement through the collaborating physician.

MO HealthNet AP enrollment packets, as well as additional enrollment information, are available at <https://mmac.mo.gov/providers/provider-enrollment/new-providers/provider-enrollment-forms/>.

MMAC will expedite the processing of AP applications.

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.mo.gov/mhd/> 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.

The information contained in this bulletin applies to coverage for:

- MO HealthNet Fee-for-Service
- Managed Care Services

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**