

PROVIDER BULLETIN

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October 24, 2022

Private Duty Nursing for Children

Applies to: Private Duty Nursing Providers

Effective date: Immediately

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- **Authorization of Private Duty Nursing for Children**
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Authorization of Private Duty Nursing for Children

Private Duty Nursing (PDN) services, with the exception of PDN included in an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), must be prior authorized by the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS), Bureau of Special Health Care Needs (BSHCN). It is the policy of MO HealthNet Division and DHSS/BSHCN that 64 units, or 16 hours, per day is the maximum amount of PDN services that may be authorized. Exceptions to the policy can be made on a short-term basis not to exceed 21 consecutive days, or with the notification of the BSHCN Regional Office Coordinator and approval of the Healthy Children Youth (HCY) Program Manager when there is documentation to support this need. More than 16 hours of PDN services per day may be authorized in unique circumstances such as post-hospitalization for a child newly requiring a ventilator, or a baby/infant discharged from the hospital with extreme medical complexities.

Applicability

The information in this bulletin applies to the MO HealthNet (MHD) fee-for-service program and may apply to the MHD managed care program, as well. MHD's fee-for-service policies set the basic coverage policies for benefits and limitations in the managed care program. The managed care health plans have additional flexibilities in operating their respective programs, such as determining which services require prior authorization, and details required for claims submission. Certain services, such as pharmacy, are "carved out" of managed care and will be paid through the fee-for-service program. To ensure your understanding of this bulletin's applicability to each managed care health plan, please contact your health plan directly, or contact MHD.MCCommunications@dss.mo.gov.

Provider Bulletins are available on the MO HealthNet Division (MHD) website 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 website 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
- 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 MO HealthNet ID card.

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