

Subject:	Home Health		
Guideline #:	CG-MED-23		
Status:	Revised		

Publish Date: Last Review Date: 12/16/2020 11/05/2020

Description

This document addresses home health care and the conditions under which it would be considered medically necessary. Home health care refers to intermittent skilled health care related services provided by or through a licensed home health agency to an individual in his or her place of residence. Home health care includes skilled nursing care, as well as other skilled care services including, but not limited to, physical, occupational, and speech therapies.

Note: Please see the following related documents for additional information:

- CG-DME-12 Home Phototherapy Devices for Neonatal Hyperbilirubinemia
- CG-DME-21 External Infusion Pumps for the Administration of Drugs in the Home or Residential Care Settings
- CG-MED-19 Custodial Care
- CG-MED-32 Ancillary Services for Pregnancy Complications
- CG-MED-71 Chronic Wound Care in the Home or Outpatient Setting
- CG-REHAB-07 Skilled Nursing and Skilled Rehabilitation Services (Outpatient)
- CG-REHAB-08 Private Duty Nursing in the Home Setting
- CG-REHAB-12 Rehabilitative and Habilitative Services in the Home Setting: Physical Medicine/Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Speech-Language Pathology

Note: This document does not address home health care for mental health conditions.

Clinical Indications

Medically Necessary:

I. Home health services are considered **medically necessary** when **all** of the following *criteria* A *through* D are met:

A. The individual is confined to the home:

- 1. The individual's overall physical/medical condition poses a serious and significant impediment to receiving intermittent or occasional, skilled, medically necessary services outside the home setting. This includes those who are bedridden and those who are non-bedridden but whose medical condition is such that they meet all other criteria for home health services. In general, the condition of these individuals should be such that there exists a normal inability to leave home and, consequently, leaving home would require a considerable and taxing effort; and
- 2. If the individual does in fact leave the home, the absences from the home are infrequent or for periods of relatively short duration, or are attributable to the need to receive health care treatment. The

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following are examples of acceptable medical and non-medical absences (*these examples are not all-inclusive and are provided as a means to illustrate the kinds of infrequent or unique events an individual may attend*):

- a. Medical absences to receive health care treatment, including but not limited to:
 - i. Ongoing receipt of outpatient kidney dialysis; or
 - ii. Receipt of outpatient chemotherapy or radiation therapy; or
 - iii. Participation in psychosocial or medical treatment in an adult day-care program that is licensed or certified by a state, or accredited, to furnish adult day-care services; or
- b. Non-medical absences:
 - i. To attend a funeral, religious service, or graduation; or
 - ii. An occasional trip to the barber, a walk around the block; or

iii. Other infrequent or unique event (for example, a family reunion or other such occurrence); **Note:** Any absence of an individual from the home attributable to the need to receive health care treatment of the types described above shall not disqualify an individual from being considered to be confined to the home. Any other absence from the home shall not so disqualify an individual if the absence is of infrequent or of relatively short duration. It is expected that in most instances, absences from the home that occur will be for the purpose of receiving health care treatment. However, occasional absences from the home for nonmedical purposes, as described above, would not necessitate a finding that one is not homebound if the absences are undertaken on an infrequent basis or are of relatively short duration and do not indicate that the individual has the capacity to obtain the health care provided outside rather than in the home.

and

- B. The service must be prescribed by the attending physician, health care provider practicing within the scope of license, or the primary care physician in coordination with the attending physician as part of a written plan of care; **and**
- C. The service(s) is so inherently complex that it can be safely and effectively performed only by:
 - 1. Qualified technical or professional health personnel such as registered nurses, licensed practical (vocational) nurses, physical therapists, licensed social-workers, speech pathologists, or audiologists; and
 - 2. The home health services are provided directly by or under the general supervision of these skilled nursing, skilled rehabilitation, or professional personnel to assure safety and to achieve the desired result; **and**
- D. The primary care physician, health care provider practicing within the scope of license, or attending physician in coordination with the primary care physician should review the treatment plan at least once every 30 days to assess the continued need for skilled intervention.
- II. Certain extended home infusion treatments are considered **medically necessary** because they are more appropriately performed in the home setting, even if the member is not homebound. The optimal location for these treatments is dependent upon a number of factors including the toxicity of the medication, the individual's previous response to the treatment, the monitoring required for safe administration, and the individual's underlying medical condition. Examples of infusion treatments sometimes performed in the home setting include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - A. Intravenous gamma globulin; or
 - B. Intravenous hydration for a variety of conditions; or

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- C. Infusions for pain control; or
- D. Some chemotherapy regimens.
- III. Other conditions for which intermittent intravenous infusions of medications provided in the home setting are considered **medically necessary** either because of the complexity of the underlying condition, or the infusion itself include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - A. Infections requiring a prolonged treatment course; or
 - B. Coagulation disorders; or
 - C. Enzyme deficiency states; or
 - D. Pain management.

Not Medically Necessary:

Home health services are considered not medically necessary when:

- A. The treatment plan provided by the primary care physician does not demonstrate the continued need for skilled intervention; **or**
- B. Goals have been achieved per plan of care.

Duration

Duration: Dependent upon the individual needs of the person receiving home health services.

Coding

The following codes for treatments and procedures applicable to this document are included below for informational purposes. Inclusion or exclusion of a procedure, diagnosis or device code(s) does not constitute or imply member coverage or provider reimbursement policy. Please refer to the member's contract benefits in effect at the time of service to determine coverage or noncoverage of these services as it applies to an individual member.

When services may be Medically Necessary when criteria are met:

СРТ	
99500	Home visit for prenatal monitoring and assessment to include fetal heart rate, non-stress
	test, uterine monitoring, and gestational diabetes monitoring
99503	Home visit for respiratory therapy care (eg, bronchodilator, oxygen therapy, respiratory
	assessment, apnea evaluation)
99504	Home visit for mechanical ventilation care
99505	Home visit for stoma care and maintenance including colostomy and cystostomy
99506	Home visit for intramuscular injections
99507	Home visit for care and maintenance of catheter(s) (eg, urinary, drainage, and enteral)
99509	Home visit for assistance with activities of daily living and personal care
99511	Home visit for fecal impaction management and enema administration
99512	Home visit for hemodialysis
99600	Unlisted home visit service or procedure

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99601	Home infusion/specialty drug administration, per visit (up to 2 hours)
99602	Home infusion/specialty drug administration, per visit, each additional hour
HCPCS	
	Note: codes G0068-G0070, G0088-G0090 are effective 01/01/21:
G0068	Professional services for the administration of anti-infective, pain management, chelation,
	pulmonary hypertension, inotropic, or other intravenous infusion drug or biological
	(excluding chemotherapy or other highly complex drug or biological) for each infusion
	drug administration calendar day in the individual's home, each 15 minutes
G0069	Professional services for the administration of subcutaneous immunotherapy or other
	subcutaneous infusion drug or biological for each infusion drug administration calendar
	day in the individual's home, each 15 minutes
G0070	Professional services for the administration of intravenous chemotherapy or other
	intravenous highly complex drug or biological infusion for each infusion drug
	administration calendar day in the individual's home, each 15 minutes
G0088	Professional services, initial visit, for the administration of anti-infective, pain
	management, chelation, pulmonary hypertension, inotropic, or other intravenous infusion
	drug or biological (excluding chemotherapy or other highly complex drug or biological)
	for each infusion drug administration calendar day in the individual's home, each 15
G0089	minutes
00089	Professional services, initial visit, for the administration of subcutaneous immunotherapy or other subcutaneous infusion drug or biological for each infusion drug administration
	calendar day in the individual's home, each 15 minutes
G0090	Professional services, initial visit, for the administration of intravenous chemotherapy or
00070	other highly complex infusion drug or biological for each infusion drug administration
	calendar day in the individual's home, each 15 minutes
G0151	Services performed by a qualified physical therapist in the home health or hospice setting,
00101	each 15 minutes
G0152	Services performed by a qualified occupational therapist in the home health or hospice
	setting, each 15 minutes
G0153	Services performed by a qualified speech-language pathologist in the home health or
	hospice setting, each 15 minutes
G0155	Services of clinical social worker in home health or hospice settings, each 15 minutes
G0156	Services of home health/hospice aide in home health or hospice settings, each 15 minutes
G0157	Services performed by a qualified physical therapist assistant in the home health or
	hospice setting, each 15 minutes
G0158	Services performed by a qualified occupational therapist assistant in the home health or
	hospice setting, each 15 minutes
G0159	Services performed by a qualified physical therapist, in the home health setting, in the
	establishment or delivery of a safe and effective physical therapy maintenance program,
C01(0	each 15 minutes
G0160	Services performed by a qualified occupational therapist, in the home health setting, in
	the establishment or delivery of a safe and effective occupational therapy maintenance
	program, each 15 minutes

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G0161	Services performed by a qualified speech-language pathologist, in the home health
	setting, in the establishment or delivery of a safe and effective speech-language pathology
	maintenance program, each 15 minutes
G0162	Skilled services by a registered nurse (RN) for management and evaluation of the plan of
	care; each 15 minutes (the patient's underlying condition or complication requires an RN
	to ensure that essential non-skilled care achieves its purpose in the home health or hospice
	setting)
G0299	Direct skilled nursing services of a registered nurse (RN) in the home health or hospice
	setting, each 15 minutes
G0300	Direct skilled nursing services of a licensed practical nurse (LPN) in the home health or
	hospice setting, each 15 minutes
G0493	Skilled services of a registered nurse (RN) for the observation and assessment of the
	patient's condition, each 15 minutes (the change in the patient's condition requires skilled
	nursing personnel to identify and evaluate the patient's need for possible modification of
	treatment in the home health or hospice setting)
G0494	Skilled services of a licensed practical nurse (LPN) for the observation and assessment of
	the patient's condition, each 15 minutes (the change in the patient's condition requires
	skilled nursing personnel to identify and evaluate the patient's need for possible
	modification of treatment in the home health or hospice setting)
G0495	Skilled services of a registered nurse (RN), in the training and/or education of a patient or
	family member, in the home health or hospice setting, each 15 minutes
G0496	Skilled services of a licensed practical nurse (LPN), in the training and/or education of a
	patient or family member, in the home health or hospice setting, each 15 minutes
G2168	Services performed by a physical therapist assistant in the home health setting in the
	delivery of a safe and effective physical therapy maintenance program, each 15 minutes
G2169	Services performed by an occupational therapist assistant in the home health setting in the
	delivery of a safe and effective occupational therapy maintenance program, each 15
	minutes
Q5001	Hospice or home health care provided in patient's home/residence
Q5002	Hospice or home health care provided in assisted living facility
Q5009	Hospice or home health care provided in place not otherwise specified (NOS)
S5035	Home infusion, therapy, routine service of infusion device (e.g., pump maintenance)
S5036	Home infusion therapy, repair of infusion device (e.g., pump repair)
S5108	Home care training to home care client; per 15 minutes
S5109	Home care training to home care client; per session
S5110-S5111	Home care training, family
S5115-S5116	Home care training, non-family
S5180-S5181	Home health respiratory therapy
S5497-S5523	Home infusion therapy, catheter care maintenance and supplies (includes codes S5497,
	S5498, S5501, S5502, S5517, S5518, S5520, S5521, S5522, S5523)
S9061	Home administration of aerosolized drug therapy (e.g., pentamidine); per diem
S9097	Home visit for wound care
S9122	Home health aide or certified nurse assistant, providing care in the home, per hour.
S9123	Nursing care, in the home; by registered nurse, per hour.

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S9124Nursing care, in the home; by licensed practical nurse, per hourS9127Social work visit, in the home, per diemS9128Speech therapy, in the home, per diemS9129Occupational therapy, in the home, per diemS9131Physical therapy, in the home, per diem	
S9128Speech therapy, in the home, per diemS9129Occupational therapy, in the home, per diemS9131Physical therapy, in the home, per diem	
S9129Occupational therapy, in the home, per diemS9131Physical therapy, in the home, per diem	
S9129Occupational therapy, in the home, per diemS9131Physical therapy, in the home, per diem	
S9131 Physical therapy, in the home, per diem	
S9209-S9214 Home management of complications of pregnancy (includes codes S9209, S9211, S S9213, S9214)	\$9212,
S9325-S9328 Home infusion therapy, pain management infusion, per diem (includes codes S932; S9326, S9327, S9328)	5,
S9329-S9331 Home infusion therapy, chemotherapy infusion, per diem (includes codes S9329, S S9331)	9330,
S9336 Home infusion therapy, continuous anticoagulant infusion therapy (e.g., Heparin); j diem	per
S9338 Home infusion therapy, immunotherapy; per diem	
S9345 Home infusion therapy, anti-hemophilic agent infusion therapy (e.g., factor VIII); p	per
diem	
S9346 Home infusion therapy, alpha-1-proteinase inhibitor (e.g., Prolastin); per diem	
S9348 Home infusion therapy, sympathomimetic/inotropic agent infusion therapy (e.g.,	
Dobutamine); per diem	
S9351 Home infusion therapy, continuous antiemetic infusion therapy; per diem	
S9353 Home infusion therapy, continuous insulin infusion therapy; per diem	
S9357 Home infusion therapy, enzyme replacement intravenous therapy (e.g., Imigluceras	se); per
diem	-
S9361 Home infusion therapy, diuretic intravenous therapy; per diem	
S9363 Home infusion therapy, antispasmotic therapy; per diem	
S9364-S9368 Home infusion therapy, total parenteral nutrition (TPN); per diem (includes codes S S9365, S9366, S9367, S9368)	\$9364,
S9370 Home therapy, intermittent antiemetic injection therapy; per diem	
S9372 Home therapy, intermittent anticoagulant injection therapy (e.g., Heparin), per dien	n
S9373-S9377 Home infusion therapy, hydration therapy; per diem (includes codes S9373, S9374 S9375, S9376, S9377)	
S9379 Home infusion therapy, infusion therapy not otherwise classified; per diem	
S9490 Home infusion therapy, corticosteroid infusion; per diem	
S9494-S9504 Home infusion therapy, antibiotic, antiviral, or antifungal therapy; per diem (includ	les
codes \$9494, \$9497, \$9500, \$9501, \$9502, \$9503, \$9504)	
S9538 Home transfusion of blood product(s); per diem	
S9542 Home injectable therapy, not otherwise classified; per diem	
S9560 Home injectable therapy, hormonal therapy (e.g., leuprolide, goserelin); per diem	
S9590 Home therapy, irrigation therapy (e.g., sterile irrigation of an organ or anatomical c	cavity);
per diem	• • •
S9810 Home therapy, professional pharmacy services, per hour	
T1001 Nursing assessment/evaluation	
T1002 RN services, up to 15 minutes	
T1002RN services, up to 15 minutesT1003LPN/LVN services, up to 15 minutes	

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T1004	Services of a qualified nursing aide, up to 15 minutes
T1021	Home health aide or certified nurse assistant, per visit
T1022	Contracted home health agency services, all services provided under contract, per day
T1030	Nursing care, in the home, by registered nurse, per diem
T1031	Nursing care, in the home, by licensed practical nurse, per diem

ICD-10 Diagnosis

All diagnoses

When services are Not Medically Necessary:

For the procedure codes listed above when criteria are not met or for situations designated in the Clinical Indications section as not medically necessary.

Discussion/General Information

Home health services are generally considered when the skilled services currently being provided by a facility (on an in-patient basis) can be provided in the home setting. Home health services are frequently provided by the following professionally trained practitioners:

- Physical therapists;
- Occupational therapists;
- Speech-language therapists;
- Licensed social workers; and
- Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses. Examples of skilled nursing services may include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - o IV infusions;
 - Central line dressing changes; and
 - o Sterile dressing changes for wounds with the application of a prescribed medication.

It is not unusual for a skilled nurse or other medical professional to educate the person receiving care, family member, or caregiver with regard to how to manage the treatment regimen and to provide skills for overcoming or adapting to functional loss. While services may be received from several skilled providers, it is important that the services provided during the home health visits are not duplicative. The determination of how long an individual requires home health care and what type of skilled practitioners will provide care is determined by the clinical response to treatment.

The homebound criteria set forth in this document are largely based on the recommendations made by the Department of Health and Human Services and the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services. The criteria are intended to be used as a tool to aid in the identification of individuals who will experience a significant hardship in obtaining the medical care needed for the treatment of an illness or recovery from an injury if medical services are not provided in the home setting. The lack of transportation does not automatically qualify an individual to be considered homebound.

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References

Government Agency, Medical Society, and Other Authoritative Publications:

- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Medicare Benefit Policy Manual. Chapter 7. Home Health Services. Rev. 258, 03-22-19. Available at: <u>http://www.cms.hhs.gov/manuals/Downloads/bp102c07.pdf</u>. Accessed on September 22, 2020.
- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). National Coverage Determination. Home nurses' visits to patients requiring heparin injection. NCD #290.2. Effective date not posted. Available at: <u>http://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/details/ncd-details.aspx?NCDId=210&ncdver=</u>1&DocID=290.2&bc=gAAAAgAAAA&. Accessed on September 22, 2020.
- 3. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). National Coverage Determination. Home health visits to a blind diabetic. NCD #290.1. Version #2. Effective October 1, 2006. Available at: <a href="http://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/details/ncd-details.aspx?NCDId=209&ncdver=2&CoverageSelection=Both&ArticleType=All&PolicyType=Final&s=All&KeyWord=home+health+visits&KeyWordLookUp=Title&KeyWordSearchType=And&bc=gAAAABAAAAA&. Accessed on September 22, 2020.
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Status	Date	Action
Revised	11/05/2020	Medical Policy & Technology Assessment Committee (MPTAC) review.
		Updated number hierarchy and formatting in MN clinical indications section.
		Description and References sections updated. Reformatted Coding section;
		updated with 01/01/2021 HCPCS changes, added G0068, G0069, G0070,
		G0088, G0089, G0090; removed revenue codes.
	04/01/2020	Updated Coding section with 04/01/2020 HCPCS changes; added G2168,
		G2169.
Reviewed	11/07/2019	MPTAC review. Description and References sections updated.
Reviewed	01/24/2019	MPTAC review. Updated formatting in Clinical Indications section. References section updated.
Revised	03/22/2018	MPTAC review. Removed BH references from document. Updated Coding section; removed CPT 99510.
Revised	02/27/2018	MPTAC review.
Revised	02/23/2018	Behavioral Health Subcommittee review. The document header wording updated from "Current Effective Date" to "Publish Date." Updated formatting in Clinical

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		Indications section. Updated Description, Clinical Indications,
		Discussion/General Information, and References sections.
Reviewed	08/03/2017	MPTAC review. References section updated.
	01/01/2017	Updated Coding section with 01/01/2017 HCPCS changes; removed codes
		G0163, G0164 deleted 12/31/2016.
Reviewed	08/04/2016	MPTAC review. Updated formatting in Clinical Indications section. References
		section updated.
	01/01/2016	Updated Coding section with 01/01/2016 HCPCS changes, removed G0154
		deleted 12/31/2015; also removed ICD-9 codes.
Reviewed	08/06/2015	MPTAC review. Description and References sections updated.
Revised	08/14/2014	MPTAC review. Clinical indications updated to include additional health
		professionals and to indicate that primary care physicians and attending
		physicians may coordinate care. References section updated.
Reviewed	08/08/2013	MPTAC review. References section updated. Web Sites section removed.
	07/01/2013	Updated Coding section to include HCPCS Q5001, Q5002, Q5009.
	04/01/2013	Updated Coding section to include CPT 99512.
Reviewed	08/09/2012	MPTAC review. Description (note), References and Web Sites sections updated.
Reviewed	08/18/2011	MPTAC review. Discussion, References and Web Sites sections updated.
	01/01/2011	Updated Coding section with 01/01/2011 HCPCS changes.
Reviewed	08/19/2010	MPTAC review. Discussion, Reference links and Web sites for additional
		information updated.
	01/01/2010	Updated Coding section with 01/01/2010 HCPCS changes.
Reviewed	08/27/2009	MPTAC review. Note below Description, Discussion and References updated.
		Place of Service section removed.
Reviewed	08/28/2008	MPTAC review. Note added (following the description) referring to related
		documents for additional information. Description, Discussion and References
		updated.
Reviewed	08/23/2007	MPTAC review. Review date, References, Coding and History sections updated.
Reviewed	09/14/2006	MPTAC review. References and Coding updated.
	11/21/2005	Added reference for Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) –
		National Coverage Determination (NCD).
Revised	09/22/2005	Revision based on Pre-merger Anthem and Pre-merger WellPoint
		Harmonization. MPTAC reviewed and approved revisions.
		 Former PMW document entitled "Home Health" archived.
		 New Clinical Guideline entitled "Home Health" developed.
		 Expanded explanation of "homebound status".
		• A review of the peer reviewed scientific literature from 08/01/2004 to
		08/05/2005 did not yield information that would result in a modification
		to the current patient selection criteria.
		 References updated to reflect correct titles and web sites (when
		applicable).

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Pre-Merger Organizations	Last Review	Guideline Number	Title
Anthem, Inc.	Date	Number	No prior document.
WellPoint Health Networks, Inc.	09/23/2004	Definition vi	Home Health

This Clinical UM Guideline is intended to provide assistance in interpreting Healthy Blue's standard Medicaid benefit plan. When evaluating insurance coverage for the provision of medical care, federal, state and/or contractual requirements must be referenced, since these may limit or differ from the standard benefit plan. In the event of a conflict, the federal, state and/or contractual requirements for the applicable benefit plan coverage will govern. Healthy Blue reserves the right to modify its Policies and Guidelines as necessary and in accordance with legal and contractual requirements. This Clinical UM Guideline is provided for informational purposes. It does not constitute medical advice. Healthy Blue may also use tools and criteria developed by third parties, to assist us in administering health benefits. Healthy Blue's Policies and Guidelines are intended to be used in accordance with the independent professional medical judgment of a qualified health care provider and do not constitute the practice of medicine or medical advice.