

## Changes to allow nursing services outside of an Early Intervention Day Treatment Clinic and Adult Development Day Treatment Clinic during COVID-19 outbreak

In response to the COVID-19 outbreak, Summit Community Care has suspended the prohibition on the use of nursing services to be provided outside of an Early Intervention Day Treatment (EIDT) Clinic and an Adult Development Day Treatment (ADDT) Clinic setting (49), limited to provider type 24 only for services provided to established patients during the COVID-19 outbreak and the declaration of public health emergency. This addendum expands allowable services to be performed in a home setting (12) provided by licensed registered nurses and licensed practical nurses.

The two services described below for nursing will be available and billable on April 10, 2020, and will be retroactive to dates of service, March 27, 2020. The services will be available to established patients only, as described for dates of service 30 days from today, with the possibility of extending for additional 30-day periods.

- T1002 — Registered Nurse, services up to 15 minutes
- T1003 — Licensed Practical Nurse, services up to 15 minutes
- EIDT — Nursing services that are needed by a beneficiary and that can only be performed by a licensed nurse may be performed and billed by an EIDT.

Nursing services are defined as the following, or similar, activities:

- Assisting ventilator-dependent beneficiaries
- Tracheostomy: suctioning and care feeding tube: feeding, care and maintenance
- Catheterizations
- Breathing treatments
- Monitoring of vital statistics, including diabetes sugar checks, insulin, blood draws, and pulse ox
- Administration of medication

**Medicaid will reimburse up to four units of nursing per day without authorization. No extension of benefit.**

- ADDT — Nursing services are available for beneficiaries who are medically fragile, have complex health needs, or both, if prescribed by the beneficiary's PCP and **require prior authorization. No extension of benefit.**

Nursing services that are needed by a beneficiary and that can only be performed by a licensed nurse may be billed by an ADDT with prior authorization. For the purposes of this manual, nursing services are defined as the following, or similar, activities:

- Assisting ventilator-dependent beneficiaries
- Tracheostomy: suctioning and care
- Feeding tube: feeding, care and maintenance
- Catheterizations

- Breathing treatments; and
- Monitoring of vital statistics, including diabetes sugar checks, insulin, blood draws and pulse ox; and
- Administration of medication

Reimbursable nursing services do not include the taking of temperature or provision of standard first aid. Administration of medication alone is not enough to qualify a member to receive nursing services. Nursing services must be performed by a licensed registered nurse or licensed practical nurse, and must be within the nurse's scope of practice as set forth by the Arkansas State Board of Nursing. To establish medical necessity for nursing services, the beneficiary must have a medical diagnosis and a comprehensive nursing evaluation approved by a PCP that designates the need for nursing services. The evaluation must specify what the needed nursing services are. Based on the nursing evaluation, the PCP must authorize the number of nursing units per day.

The following services **cannot** be completed during these encounters:

1. Evaluations and re-evaluations. However, if an annual evaluation is due during this time, the deadline may be extended until the patient is able to come into the office.
2. Group Services.

Note: The rate for approved services are the same for in home as they are clinic based for both EIDT and ADDT. When billing for these services, you must include all modifiers on the claim. **All nursing claims submitted must include the GT modifier and POS (12).** If you have any questions on billing, please contact Provider Services at **1-844-462-0022**.

For additional information regarding updates on COVID-19, please access the following: <https://provider.summitcommunitycare.com/arkansas-provider/covid-19-updates>.