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## MEMORANDUM (DMS-21)

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To: EIDT and ADDT Providers

From: Division of Medical Services

(DMS) Date: April 1, 2020

Re: Allow Nursing Services Outside of an Early Intervention Day Treatment (EIDT) Clinic and Adult Development Day Treatment (ADDT) Clinic during COVID-19 Outbreak

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*Amended May 7, 2020.*

*The two services described below for Nursing became 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 authorized by the Governor's Executive Order 20-06 and Order 20-16, regarding the public health emergency concerning COVID-19, and power delegated to the Governor by Arkansas Code Annotated § 12-75-114, the following agency rules are identified as preventing, hindering, or delaying the agency's ability to render maximum assistance to the citizens of this state and are hereby suspended for the duration of the declared public health emergency, unless otherwise stated.*

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In response to the COVID-19 outbreak in Arkansas and consistent with CMS's coverage and payment for COVID-19, DMS is suspending the prohibition on 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 done in a home setting (12) provided by licensed Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses.

**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:

- A. Assisting ventilator-dependent beneficiaries;
- B. Tracheostomy: suctioning and care  
Feeding tube: feeding, care and maintenance
- D. Catheterizations
- E. Breathing treatments
- F. Monitoring of vital statistics, including diabetes sugar checks, insulin, blood draws, and pulse ox
- G. 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 child 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.

**Medicaid will reimburse up to 4 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 **prior authorized**.

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:

- 1. Assisting ventilator-dependent beneficiaries;
- 2. Tracheostomy: suctioning and care;
- 3. Feeding tube: feeding, care and maintenance;
- 4. Catheterizations;
- 5. Breathing treatments;

6. Monitoring of vital statistics, including diabetes sugar checks, insulin, blood draws and pulse ox; and
7. Administration of medication.

Reimbursable nursing services do not include the taking of temperature, or provision of standard first aid.

Administration of medication alone does not qualify a beneficiary for 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, and the number of nursing units needed per day.

The following services **cannot** be completed during this time:

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.

**To ensure quality and consistency of care to Medicaid beneficiaries, DMS will coordinate with the Office of the Medicaid Inspector General (OMIG) to conduct retrospective reviews and audits of these services during this time. Please keep all records of services as required by Medicaid physician billing and telemedicine rules.**

### **Billing Instructions**

In addition to the information listed above, when requesting a PA for ADDT nursing through the eQHealth portal, the process type is the same process type currently used for submission.

**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 Portland Gilbert at [Portland.Gilbert@dhs.arkansas.gov](mailto:Portland.Gilbert@dhs.arkansas.gov)