



Payment Policy

Nutritional Counseling

Purpose

The purpose of this payment policy is to define how Minuteman Health, Inc (MHI) reimburses medical nutritional counseling services provided by nutritionists or non-physician professionals.

Applicable Plans

- MHI MA Plans
- MHI NH Plans

Definitions

Medical Nutrition Therapy involves the assessment of an individual's overall nutritional status followed by an individualized course of treatment to prevent or treat medical illness.

Requirements

MHI Reimburses:

Benefits and limitations are specific to the Member's benefit.

- Nutritional counseling services for the purpose of disease management
- All covered diagnostic tests related to nutritional counseling that are ordered by the member's PCP or Plan Specialist and are rendered by a contracted provider
- Diabetes outpatient self-management training services when rendered by a certified diabetes health care provider
- Medical nutrition therapy performed by a physician when billed under evaluation and management or preventive medicine service codes

MHI Does Not Reimburse:

Services that are not considered nutritional counseling including but not limited to:

- Commercial diet plans, weight management programs or any foods or services related to such plans or programs

- Gym membership programs
- Holistic therapy
- Nutritional counseling when offered by health resorts, recreational programs, camps, outdoor skill programs, relaxation or lifestyle programs, including any services provided in conjunction with, or as part of, such types of programs
- Supplemental fasting
- Treatment by a physical therapist for weight loss

Provider Billing Guidelines

The following codes are applicable to bill nutritional counseling services.

97802	Medical nutrition therapy; initial assessment and intervention, individual, face-to-face with the patient, 15 minutes
97803	Re-assessment and intervention, individual, face-to-face with the patient, each 15 minutes
97804	Group (2 or more individuals), each 30 minutes
G0108	Diabetes outpatient self-management training services, individual, per 30 minutes
G0109	Diabetes outpatient self-management training services, group session (2 or more), per 30 minutes

Authorization Requirements

None

Attachments

None

Important Note About This Reimbursement Policy

Providers are responsible for submission of accurate claims. All EDI claims must be submitted in accordance with HIPAA 5010 Standards and Paper claims must be submitted on either CMS1500 or CMS1450 (UB04) claim forms. MHI's reimbursement policy includes the use of Current Procedural Terminology (CPT^{®1}), guidelines from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), and other coding guidelines. Providers will be reimbursed based on the codes(s) that correctly describe the health care services provided.

MHI may use reasonable discretion in interpreting and applying this policy to health care services provided in a particular case. Further, the policy does not address all issues related to reimbursement for health care services provided to MHI enrollees. Other factors affecting reimbursement may supplement, modify or, in some cases, supersede this policy. These factors may include, but are not limited to, legislative mandates, the type of provider agreement and the terms of that agreement, the MHI Provider Manual, and/or the enrollee's benefit coverage documents.

MHI reserves the right to audit any provider and/or facility to ensure compliance with the guidelines stated in this payment policy in accordance with our provider review policy.

Resources

American Medical Association, Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) and associated publications and services MHI provider Manual

History

Updated 11/1/2015, 11/01/2016

¹ CPT® is a registered trademark of the American Medical Association.