



P R O V I D E R B U L L E T I N

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To: All Providers
Subject: Provider Notification of Physical Therapist Assistant's Rule Change

Overview

The purpose of this bulletin is to advise providers that the Indiana Administrative Code (IAC) 405 IAC 1-11.5-2 was amended to allow for the reimbursement of services provided by certified physical therapists' assistants (PTA). This rule amends 405 IAC 5-22-8 regarding supervision requirements for services provided by certified physical therapists' assistants. The PTA is precluded from performing and interpreting tests, conducting initial or subsequent assessments, and developing treatment plans. Under direct supervision, a PTA is still required to consult with the supervising physical therapist daily to review treatment. The consultation can be either face-to-face or by telephone.

Covered Procedures for PTAs

Effective April 1, 2006, the Indiana Health Coverage Programs (IHCP) has identified procedures that can be performed by a PTA and are eligible for reimbursement. Providers must bill these services with the modifier *HM – Less than a bachelor's degree*. Pricing for these services will reimburse at 75 percent of the reimbursement level for a physical therapist. Table 1 lists the physical therapy services that PTAs may perform.

Note: This information does not apply to First Steps services.

Table 1 – Physical Therapy Services that May Be Performed by a PTA

| Current Procedural Terminology® Code | Description |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 29200 | Strapping; thorax |
| 29220 | Strapping; low back |
| 29240 | Strapping; shoulder |
| 29260 | Strapping; elbow or wrist |
| 29280 | Strapping; hand or finger |

(Continued)

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Table 1 – Physical Therapy Services that May Be Performed by a PTA

| Current Procedural Terminology® Code | Description |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 29505 | Application of long leg splint (thigh to ankle or toes) |
| 29515 | Application of short leg splint (calf to foot) |
| 29520 | Strapping; hip |
| 29530 | Strapping; knee |
| 29540 | Strapping; ankle and/or foot |
| 29550 | Strapping; toes |
| 29580 | Strapping; Unna Boot |
| 29590 | Denis-Browne splint strapping |
| 97010 | Application of a modality to one or more areas; hot or cold compacts |
| 97012 | Application of a modality to one or more areas; traction, mechanical |
| 97014 | Application of a modality to one or more areas; electrical stimulation (unattended) |
| 97016 | Application of a modality to one or more areas; vasopneumatic devices |
| 97018 | Application of a modality to one or more areas; paraffin bath |
| 97022 | Application of a modality to one or more areas; whirlpool |
| 97024 | Application of a modality to one or more areas; diathermy |
| 97026 | Application of a modality to one or more areas; infrared |
| 97028 | Application of a modality to one or more areas; ultraviolet |
| 97032 | Application of a modality to one or more areas; electrical stimulation (manual), each 15 minutes |
| 97033 | Application of a modality to one or more areas; iontophoresis, each 15 minutes |
| 97034 | Application of a modality to one or more areas; contrast baths, each 15 minutes |
| 97035 | Application of a modality to one or more areas; ultrasound, each 15 minutes |
| 97036 | Application of a modality to one or more areas; Hubbard tank, each 15 minutes |
| 97110 | Therapeutic procedure, one or more areas, each 15 minutes; therapeutic exercises to develop strength and endurance, range of motion and flexibility |
| 97112 | Therapeutic procedure, one or more areas, each 15 minutes; neuromuscular reeducation of movement, balance, coordination, kinesthetic sense, posture, and/or proprioception for sitting and/or standing activities |
| 97113 | Therapeutic procedure, one or more areas, each 15 minutes; aquatic therapy with therapeutic exercise |
| 97116 | Therapeutic procedure, one or more areas, each 15 minutes; gait training (includes stair climbing) |
| 97124 | Therapeutic procedure, one or more areas, each 15 minutes; massage, including effleurage, petrissage, and/or tapotement (stroking, compression, percussion) |

(Continued)

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Table 1 – Physical Therapy Services that May Be Performed by a PTA¹

| Current Procedural Terminology® Code | Description |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 97140 | Manual therapy techniques (e.g., mobilization/manipulation, manual lymphatic drainage, manual traction), one or more regions, each 15 minutes |
| 97150 | Therapeutic procedure(s), group (two or more individuals) |
| 97760 | Orthotic(s) management and training, (including assessment and fitting when not otherwise reported), upper extremity (s) and/or trunk, each 15 minutes |
| 97761 | Prosthetic training, upper and/or lower extremity (s), each 15 minutes |
| 97530 | Therapeutic activities, direct (one on one) patient contact by the provider (use of dynamic activities to improve functional performance), each 15 minutes. |

¹ Evaluation and testing codes are excluded from this list as PTAs may not administer tests or perform evaluations.

Contact Information

Questions about the information in this bulletin may be directed to the following:

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