

MEDICAL NUTRITIONAL COUNSELING AND DIABETES SELF-MANAGEMENT TRAINING

Policy

NHP reimburses participating providers for outpatient medical nutritional counseling and diabetes self-management training services for the management of a medical condition when medically necessary and ordered by the member's PCP or NHP treating provider.

Prerequisites

Authorization, Notification and Referral

Service	Requirement
Diabetes Self-Management Training	No Referral, Notification or Prior Authorization required
Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT)	No Referral, Notification or Prior Authorization required
Home Nutritional Services	Prior Authorization required
Nutritional counseling as a component of a NHP Network qualified weight management program	Referral from PCP and Prior Authorization required for a weight management program
For HVMA Members	A referral number for most specialists is required for NHP members with a Harvard Vanguard Medical Associates PCP seeking non-emergency care outside of the Harvard Vanguard Medical Associates Network. Please verify that the member has the appropriate referral number prior to rendering care.

Limitations

Coverage includes, but is not limited to:

- Nutritional counseling for health problems or for members who have been determined to have a high potential for developing such health problems that might be avoided or made less severe through proper nutrition.
- Diabetes and Renal Diseases Management: Medical nutritional counseling services for NHP members with diabetes and/or renal diseases to help the members manage their disease.
- Home nutritional services when nutritional counseling services are part of a medically necessary home treatment plan with a defined goal, ordered by the member's PCP or NHP treating provider.
- Maternity pre-natal nutrition counseling services for diet regulation.

- Nutritional counseling as part of a NHP qualified weight loss management program
- Nutritional counseling, both pre-op and post-op, for NHP members with prior authorization to undergo bariatric surgery.

Member Cost-Sharing

The provider is responsible for verifying at each encounter and when applicable for each day of care when the patient is hospitalized, coverage, available benefits, and member out-of-pocket costs; copayments, coinsurance, and deductible required, if any.

Definitions

Certified Diabetes Educator (CDE): A certified health care professional who possesses distinct and specialized knowledge, thereby promoting quality care for persons with diabetes. This certification is issued by the National Certification Board of Diabetic Education (NCBDE), by means of an evaluative process that demonstrates that rigorous eligibility requirements have been met.

Diabetic Self-Management Training (DSMT): Training and education furnished to individuals with pre-diabetes or diabetes rendered by a certified diabetes educator. The educational curriculum includes: disease process and treatment options; nutritional management; glucose monitoring; medication utilization; physical activities; stress reduction; prevention, detection and treatment of acute and chronic complications.

Dietitian: The Massachusetts Board of Registration of Dietitians/Nutritionists grants licenses as a licensed dietitian/nutritionist (LDN) to qualified individuals who comply with the requirements of the statute. A Registered Dietitian (RD) additionally meets the qualifications of the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR). These professionals may perform a wide variety of services including but not limited to: individualized nutritional assessment; and individual or group nutrition counseling for wellness, disease or life style change.

Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT): Nutritional, diagnostic therapy, followed by counseling services for the purpose of disease management which are furnished by a physician, registered dietitian, licensed dietician/nutritionist or other health-care provider with specific training in the provision of nutritional counseling.

Nutritional Counseling: An ongoing process in which a healthcare professional works with an individual to assess his or her usual dietary intake and identify areas where change is needed. The nutrition counselor provides information, educational materials, support, and follow-up to help the individual make and maintain the needed dietary changes.

Qualified Weight Management Program: A physician supervised program employing a combination of diet modification, physical activity, nutritional counseling, and behavioral modification that is part of NHP's Network and contracted to provide a comprehensive weight management program.

Neighborhood Health Plan Reimburses

The following provider types:

- PCPs and nurse practitioners providing medical nutritional therapy assessment and/or intervention reported with either evaluation and management service codes or preventative medicine service codes, in accordance with CPT guidelines.

- Services provided by a licensed dietician/nutritionist (LDN) providing nutritional counseling or a certified diabetic educator (CDE) when directly supervised by a contracted NHP physician. Submitted claims will be processed using the supervising physician’s NPI. The physician must be enrolled with NHP on the date of service.
- A facility billing for the services of a salaried registered dietitian (RD), licensed dietician/nutritionist (LDN), or certified diabetes educator (CDE). Submitted claims will be processed using the facility’s NPI.

The following services:

- Nutritional counseling for disease management.
- Diabetes outpatient self-management training when rendered by a certified diabetes educator.
- Medical nutritional therapy services rendered by a PCP billed with evaluation and management service codes, or preventative medicine service codes.
- Home nutritional services when nutritional counseling services are part of a medically necessary home treatment plan.

Neighborhood Health Plan Does *Not* Reimburse

- Dietary supplements or foods, including but not limited to Optifast, Health Management Resources and Medifast.
- Weight management programs not in the NHP Network and not contracted to provide a comprehensive weight management program, including but not limited to commercial diet plans; food services; weight management programs; health resorts, camps, lifestyle programs, and recreational programs.
- Diabetes training camps/programs.
- Independent nutrition groups not directly contracted with NHP.

Procedure Codes Applicable to Guideline

Note: This list of codes may not be all-inclusive.

Code	Descriptor	Comments
0942	Other therapeutic services: education and training	For outpatient diabetes self-management training /education services. CPT/HCPCS codes required.
97802	Medical nutrition therapy; initial assessment and intervention, individual, face-to-face with the patient, each 15 minutes	
97803	Medical nutrition therapy; reassessment and intervention, individual, face-to-face with the patient, each 15 minutes	
97804	Medical nutrition therapy; group (2 or more individuals), each 30 minutes	
G0108	Diabetes outpatient self-management training services, individual, per 30 minutes	Submit with a diabetes diagnosis
G0109	Diabetes outpatient self-management training services, group session (2 or more), per 30 minutes	Submit with a diabetes diagnosis
G0270	Medical nutrition therapy; reassessment and subsequent intervention(s) following second referral in same year for change in diagnosis, medical condition or treatment regimen (including additional hours needed for renal disease), individual, face-to-face with the patient, each 15 minutes	Use to report re-assessment after second referral and subsequent interventions in the same calendar year

G0271	Medical nutrition therapy; reassessment and subsequent intervention(s) following second referral in same year for change in diagnosis, medical condition or treatment regimen (including additional hours needed for renal disease), group, (2 or more individuals), each 30 minutes	
G8015- G8026	Physician Quality Reporting Indicator Codes (PQRI) for diabetic patients developed for the Medicare physician voluntary reporting program. Physicians should not bill for these codes	Not reimbursed
S9470	Nutritional counseling; dietician visit	For an authorized home treatment plan

Related NHP Payment Guidelines

Evaluation and Management (E/M) Services

References

MassHealth Acute Outpatient Hospital Bulletin 20, July 2007: Medical Nutrition Therapy and Diabetes Self-Management Training

MassHealth Community Health Center Bulletin 60, July 2007: Medical Nutrition Therapy and Diabetes Self-Management Training

MassHealth Physician Bulletin 86, July 2007: Medical Nutrition Therapy and Diabetes Self-Management Training

MassHealth Updates “Partners/MassHealth Operations Work Group July 10, 2007”, Medical Nutrition Therapy

Mass. Division of Professional Licensure: Dietitian & Nutritionists, Facts for Consumers from the Massachusetts Board of Registration of Dietitians and Nutritionists, accessed October 21, 2009

Publication History

Topic: Medical Nutrition Counseling and Diabetes Self-Management Training	Owner: Provider Network Management
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October 30, 2009 Original documentation

July 5, 2011 Authorization, cost sharing, NHP reimburses, provider type relocated, NHP does not reimburse independent nutrition groups added, and disclaimer updated

February 1, 2012 Auth grid updated

March 16, 2012 Auth grid updated

This document is designed for informational purposes only. Claims payment is subject to member eligibility and benefits on the date of service, coordination of benefits, referral/authorization/notification and utilization management guidelines when applicable, adherence to plan policies and procedures, claims editing logic, and provider contractual agreement. In the event of a conflict between this payment guideline and the provider’s agreement, the terms and conditions of the provider’s agreement shall prevail. Neighborhood Health Plan utilizes McKesson’s claims editing software, ClaimCheck, a clinically oriented, automated program that identifies the “appropriate set” of procedures eligible for provider reimbursement by analyzing the current and historical procedure codes billed on a single date of service and/or multiple dates of service, and also audits across dates of service to identify the unbundling of pre and post-operative care. Please refer to Neighborhood Health Plan’s Provider Manual Billing Guidelines section for additional information on NHP’s billing guidelines and administration policies. Questions may be directed to Provider Network Management at prweb@nhp.org.