

Resources on Reimbursement for Pediatric Physical Therapy Services and Durable Medical Equipment

Section on Pediatrics FACT SHEET



SECTION ON
PEDIATRICS
AMERICAN PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSOCIATION

Section on Pediatrics APTA

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American Physical Therapy Association (APTA)

(www.apta.org)

Our national professional organization serves as a major resource for disseminating information related to reimbursement. Key highlights include:

- “Reimbursement” link on APTA’s home page: Provides general overview of reimbursement, CPT codes, and working with insurers
- “Working with Insurers” link on Reimbursement page: Provides information on payment by treatment setting, including Medicaid resources and school based reimbursement
- “Glossary and Resources” link on Reimbursement page: Provides links to state practice acts, insurance glossary, and articles/books on reimbursement

APTA State Chapters

(www.apta.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Chapters&Template=/aptaapps/componentsonline/componentsonline.cfm)

APTA’s state Chapters have committees on reimbursement/insurance relations and often have identified a reimbursement specialist. To access your state chapter, click on Membership & Leadership, then on Chapters & Sections, or just click on the link above. On your state chapter’s home page, link to committees to locate the related committee and committee members.

APTA Section on Pediatrics

(www.pediatricapta.org/members/peds-contacts.cfm)

The Section on Pediatrics Government Affairs Committee has a Reimbursement Subcommittee that is active at the national level and is available to answer your specific questions. The Section on Pediatrics State Representatives are available to serve as a resource for state-specific issues on pediatric physical therapy and may be able to assist therapists with accessing information on reimbursement. To contact the Government Affairs Committee or your State Rep, visit the About Us area of the Section’s Web site.

US Department of Health and Human Services

(www.cms.hhs.gov/home/medicaid.asp)

The federal Department of Health and Human Services provides an overview of the Medicaid program and a link to state Medicaid plans and coding. Medicaid is a state-administered program that pays for medical care for families with low income as well as other eligibility groups, such as in some states, children with disabilities. Because it is a state-administered program, there are individual state variations in both what services and equipment are covered and the amount of support. In some states, Medicaid, with parent consent, also is being used to support children receiving services under IDEA.

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American Physical Therapy Association
The Science of Healing... The Art of Caring...

IDEA 2004 Federal Regulations

(idea.ed.gov/download/finalregulations.pdf)

The federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act requires parental consent to access the child's or parent's public benefits or insurance to provide or pay for services that are required to provide a free appropriate public education to an eligible child. CFR §300.154(d).

States' IDEA Part C Rules, Regulations and Policies

(www.nectac.org/partc/statepolicies.asp)

Early Intervention services are provided under Part C of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; however, the legislation is implemented at the state level. The National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center Web site above provides links to many of the state Part C policies, which will include your state's policy on payment for early intervention services.

State Education Agencies

(wdcrobcolp01.ed.gov/Programs/EROD/org_list.cfm?category_ID=SEA)

School-based related services are provided under Part B of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; however, the legislation is implemented at the state level. The US Department of Education Web site above provides links to state education agencies. Your state agency's Web site can be searched for information on reimbursement of related services.

State Directors of Special Education

(wdcrobcolp01.ed.gov/Programs/EROD/org_list.cfm?category_ID=SSE)

School-based related services are provided under Part B of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; however, the legislation is implemented at the state level. The US Department of Education Web site above provides links to state directors of special education services. Your state's special education Web site also can be directly searched for information on fiscal guidelines, funding, and contact information.

Other Philanthropic and Professional Organizations

Organizations that address children with special needs often have information on their Web sites that help parents to request pro-bono durable medical equipment and therapy services that may not be covered through medical insurance. There are organizations at the national level that are diagnosis specific, such as: 1) United Cerebral Palsy, 2) Muscular Dystrophy Association, and 3) Juvenile Arthritis Association (among others) that offer helpful information.

Other philanthropic organizations may be more specific to your specific geographical region. Some of the more known organizations include 1) The Rotary Club, 2) Kiwanis Club, 3) Knights of Columbus, 4) Civitan International (national organization dedicated to helping people with developmental disabilities at <http://www.civitan.org>), 5) Shriner's Hospital for Children (free orthopedic & burn care to children at <http://www.shrinershq.org>), and 6) Easter Seals. Local charities; community organizations; and churches, synagogues, or mosques also may be involved with granting funds for durable medical equipment for children.

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Please note: Many of the resources summarized in this document are maintained by outside agencies. Reimbursement information is constantly changing and content should be confirmed for accuracy.

For More Information

If you have additional questions, would like to order additional copies of this fact sheet, or would like to join the Section on Pediatrics, please contact the Executive Office of the Section on Pediatrics of the American Physical Therapy Association at:

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Or visit the Section's Web site at www.pediatricapta.org.

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