

Clinical Policy: Respite Services

Reference Number: HI.CP.MP.504

Last Review Date: 08/23

[Coding Implications](#)

[Revision Log](#)

See [Important Reminder](#) at the end of this policy for important regulatory and legal information.

Description This policy describes the medical necessity requirements for respite services.

Policy/Criteria

- I. It is the policy of Ohana Health Plan that respite services are **medically necessary** when all of the following criteria are met:¹
 - A. Member is unable to care for themselves;
 - B. Rationale for services is for medical necessity not convenience (e.g., caregiver ill, potential caregiver burnout, going on vacation or on a business trip);
 - C. All other resources have been explored (e.g., family, friends, etc.);
 - D. Member meets nursing facility level of care (NFLOC) level of care to allow the choice to live in their homes and communities with appropriate quality supports designed to promote health and safety and independence;
 - E. Services are authorized by the Member's primary care physician (PCP) as part of the member's care plan;
 - F. An approved 1147 has been obtained and includes current services already in place;
 - G. Services are on a short term basis with a definite plan to return to the original care setting;
 - H. Services are furnished on a short-term basis due to the absence of, or need for, relief for those persons normally providing the care;
 - I. Services are to be provided at one of the three (3) levels:
 1. Hourly;
 2. Daily;
 3. Overnight.
 - J. Place of Service (POS) is provided in one of the following locations when at the same level of care:
 1. Individual's home or place of residence;
 2. Private residence of a respite care worker;
 3. Licensed Day Care Facility;
 4. Medicaid Certified Nursing Facility;
 5. Foster home/ARCH, Expanded ARCH;
 6. Licensed respite day care facility;
 7. Other community care residential facility approved by the State.
 - K. The maximum allowable benefit is 2 weeks per episode.

Background

Respite Care is short-term care provided to an individual to relieve their caregivers at home.

Inpatient Respite Services are provided in a skilled nursing facility or hospice.

Outpatient Respite Services are provided in a member’s place of residence (e.g., in-home, assisted living facility), as well as for those receiving hospice care.

Coding Implications

This clinical policy references Current Procedural Terminology (CPT[®]). CPT[®] is a registered trademark of the American Medical Association. All CPT codes and descriptions are copyrighted 2019, American Medical Association. All rights reserved. CPT codes and CPT descriptions are from the current manuals and those included herein are not intended to be all-inclusive and are included for informational purposes only. Codes referenced in this clinical policy are for informational purposes only. Inclusion or exclusion of any codes does not guarantee coverage. Providers should reference the most up-to-date sources of professional coding guidance prior to the submission of claims for reimbursement of covered services.

HCPCS* Codes	Description
H0045	Respite care services, not in the home, per diem
S9125	Respite care, in the home, per diem
T1005	Respite care services, up to 15 minutes

Reviews, Revisions, and Approvals	Date	Approval Date
Original approval date		02/14
Annual review, no changes		02/15
Annual review, no changes		02/16
Annual review, no changes		02/17
Annual review, no changes		01/18
Updated lines of business		12/18
Annual review, no changes		11/19
Transitioned policy to new state specific template and sent to market for ownership, Policy number changed from HS-227 to HI.CP.MP.504	9/2020	
Annual review, no changes	08/2023	

References

1. QUEST expanded access (QExA) request for proposals (RFP) [RFP-MQD-2008-006 description (sec. 40.750.3, s. p. 142). Quest Hawai’I Web site. <https://medquest.hawaii.gov/en/about/quest-integration.html>. Published 2007. Accessed October 25, 2019.

Important Reminder

This clinical policy has been developed by appropriately experienced and licensed health care professionals based on a review and consideration of currently available generally accepted standards of medical practice; peer-reviewed medical literature; government agency/program approval status; evidence-based guidelines and positions of leading national health professional organizations; views of physicians practicing in relevant clinical areas affected by this clinical

CLINICAL POLICY RESPITE SERVICES

policy; and other available clinical information. The Health Plan makes no representations and accepts no liability with respect to the content of any external information used or relied upon in developing this clinical policy. This clinical policy is consistent with standards of medical practice current at the time that this clinical policy was approved. “Health Plan” means a health plan that has adopted this clinical policy and that is operated or administered, in whole or in part, by Centene Management Company, LLC, or any of such health plan’s affiliates, as applicable.

The purpose of this clinical policy is to provide a guide to medical necessity, which is a component of the guidelines used to assist in making coverage decisions and administering benefits. It does not constitute a contract or guarantee regarding payment or results. Coverage decisions and the administration of benefits are subject to all terms, conditions, exclusions and limitations of the coverage documents (e.g., evidence of coverage, certificate of coverage, policy, contract of insurance, etc.), as well as to state and federal requirements and applicable Health Plan-level administrative policies and procedures.

This clinical policy is effective as of the date determined by the Health Plan. The date of posting may not be the effective date of this clinical policy. This clinical policy may be subject to applicable legal and regulatory requirements relating to provider notification. If there is a discrepancy between the effective date of this clinical policy and any applicable legal or regulatory requirement, the requirements of law and regulation shall govern. The Health Plan retains the right to change, amend or withdraw this clinical policy, and additional clinical policies may be developed and adopted as needed, at any time.

This clinical policy does not constitute medical advice, medical treatment or medical care. It is not intended to dictate to providers how to practice medicine. Providers are expected to exercise professional medical judgment in providing the most appropriate care, and are solely responsible for the medical advice and treatment of members. This clinical policy is not intended to recommend treatment for members. Members should consult with their treating physician in connection with diagnosis and treatment decisions.

Providers referred to in this clinical policy are independent contractors who exercise independent judgment and over whom the Health Plan has no control or right of control. Providers are not agents or employees of the Health Plan.

This clinical policy is the property of the Health Plan. Unauthorized copying, use, and distribution of this clinical policy or any information contained herein are strictly prohibited. Providers, members and their representatives are bound to the terms and conditions expressed herein through the terms of their contracts. Where no such contract exists, providers, members and their representatives agree to be bound by such terms and conditions by providing services to members and/or submitting claims for payment for such services.

Note: For Medicaid members, when state Medicaid coverage provisions conflict with the coverage provisions in this clinical policy, state Medicaid coverage provisions take precedence. Please refer to the state Medicaid manual for any coverage provisions pertaining to this clinical policy.

CLINICAL POLICY RESPITE SERVICES



Note: For Medicare members, to ensure consistency with the Medicare National Coverage Determinations (NCD) and Local Coverage Determinations (LCD), all applicable NCDs, LCDs, and Medicare Coverage Articles should be reviewed prior to applying the criteria set forth in this clinical policy. Refer to the CMS website at <http://www.cms.gov> for additional information.

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