



Medical Nutrition Therapy Payment Policy

Policy

Fallon Community Health Plan (FCHP) will reimburse for covered medical nutrition therapy services provided by licensed professionals who are participating through a contracted entity and are within the legal scope of their practice.

Definitions

Medical nutritional therapy (MNT) is nutritional therapy and counseling services for the purpose of management of a medical condition.

This policy applies to the payment for MNT Services furnished by a non-MD licensed professional such as: registered dietitian (RD), licensed medical nutrition therapist (LMNT), certified nutritionist (CN), registered diabetic educator (RDE), licensed dietician/nutritionist (LDN), or other licensed health-care providers with specific training in the provision of nutritional counseling.

Each state is responsible for mandating and enforcing specific requirements for licensure and for defining the legal scope of practice.

Benefits application

Commercial

- FCHP Direct Care/FCHP Select Care
- Commonwealth Care
- Companion Care
- FCHP MassHealth
- Major Medical
- Fallon Preferred Care

Senior Plan

- Fallon Senior Plan™
- Fallon Senior Plan Preferred
- Summit ElderCare®

Reimbursement

FCHP's payment for all services provided by non-physician professionals is 85 percent of the applicable physician fee schedule amount, or as per contract.

Referral/notification/preauthorization requirements

PCP referrals are required for all specialty visits with the exception of diabetes education.

For a description of services requiring a PCP referral, please refer to the PCP referral and preauthorization grid located in the "Managing Patient Care" section of the *Provider Manual* under "PCP Referral and Plan Preauthorization Process."

The ordering physician is required to obtain preauthorization for:

- Unlisted CPT codes.
- The applicable codes found on the List of Procedures Requiring Preauthorization located in the Managing Patient Care section of the Provider Manual under PCP Referral and Plan Preauthorization Process.

Billing/coding guidelines

The medical nutrition therapy professional provider's name must be submitted in box 31 along with the corresponding NPI number in box 24J. Also, the referring physician's name and NPI number must be submitted in box 17 and 17b of the CMS-1500 form. Claims for these professional services will deny for "Reject - Bill on CMS-1500 form" if submitted on UB-04 claim forms.

The following CPT codes should be used:

97802 – Medical nutrition therapy (MNT) Initial assessment and intervention, individual, face-to-face with the patient, each 15 minutes.

97803 – MNT reassessment and intervention, individual, face-to-face with the patient, each 15 minutes.

97804 – MNT group, 2 or more individuals, each 30 minutes.

G0270 – MNT; reassessment and subsequent intervention(s) following second referral in same year for change in diagnosis, medical condition, or treatment regimen, individual, face-to-face with the patient, each 15 minutes.

G0271 – MNT; reassessment and subsequent intervention(s) following second referral in same year for change in diagnosis, medical condition, or treatment regimen, group, each 30 minutes.

Place of service

This policy applies to services rendered in all settings.

Policy history

Origination date:	07/21/04
Previous revision date(s):	02/02/05, 07/06/05, 05/23/07, 09/12/07
Connection date & details:	05/01/09 – Added to the list of professionals who perform the service, edited the billing/coding section to clearly state that if these professional services are submitted on UB-04 rather than CMS-1500 claim forms, they will deny as "Reject - bill on CMS-1500 form", and removed code S9470 – Nutritional counseling, dietician visit from the list of CPT codes that should be used because it is a non-covered code.

This payment policy has been developed to provide information regarding general billing, coding and documentation guidelines for FCHP. Even though this payment policy may indicate that a particular service or supply is considered covered, specific provider contract terms and/or member individual benefit plans may apply and this policy is not a guarantee of payment. FCHP reserves the right to apply this payment policy to all FCHP companies and subsidiaries.