



KMTSJ, Inc.

DEPARTMENT:	Utilization Management
SUBJECT:	Dietary Counseling
PRODUCT LINE:	All
POLICY NUMBER:	026
ORIGINAL POLICY EFFECTIVE DATE:	10/01/2012
LAST REVISED DATE:	02/10/2024
LAST REVIEWED DATE:	02/10/2024

SCOPE: To ensure Group Health Cooperative of Eau Claire (the Cooperative) consistently and correctly administers dietary counseling benefit to all members according to their policy specifics.

POLICY: The Cooperative considers dietary counseling to be medically necessary for members with chronic disease states. Services require a prescription from the physician and need to be furnished by an in plan registered dietician.

PROCEDURE: COMMERCIAL (This does not apply to grand-fathered plans)


ETF/Commercial Members: A limited dietary counseling benefit is available for members with a diagnosis of obesity OR certain cardiovascular or diet-related chronic disease. This limited benefit is covered for those who meet the criteria below:

For Obesity:

- Physician directed care visits will be covered with no cost share. Must be a Cooperative Plan Provider.
- Dietary counseling is covered if provided by a participating Registered Dietitian or Plan Provider.
- **HCPCS code G0447 (dietary counseling for obesity), 97802, or 97803, must be utilized in order for payment to be made.** These codes designate an intensive 1:1 service.
- Total of 12 visits per plan year are covered.
- Coverage is for members with a BMI > than 30. Once the weight loss brings the member to a BMI of < than or equal to 30, the mandate no longer applies, therefore the benefit stops.
- Claims must have a Primary Diagnosis of Obesity
- This service is for both adults and for children over the age of 6
- Food items, services such as Weight Watchers, Jenny Craig, Medi Fast, Dietary Supplements, HMR, are not a covered benefit.

For Cardiovascular Conditions/Chronic disease:

- Physician directed care visits will be covered with no cost share. Must be a Cooperative Plan Provider. Dietary counseling is covered if provided by a participating Registered Dietitian or Plan Provider and no cost share.
- **This benefit is limited to 2 visits per plan year.** Individuals with a cardiovascular/chronic disease diagnosis and obesity will have services provided under the obesity benefit.
- **HCPCS code G0447 (dietary counseling for obesity), 97802, or 97803 must be utilized in order for payment to be made.** These codes designate an Intensive 1:1 service.
- Qualifying diagnoses include:
 - Diabetes Mellitus
 - Hypertension

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- Hyperlipidemia
- Heart Failure
- Hypercholesteremia

MEDICAID

Prior authorization for dietary counseling is not required.

- Dietary Counseling is a covered benefit for members with chronic disease states such as diabetes mellitus, cardiovascular disease, kidney disease and gastrointestinal disorders and those attempting to qualify for bariatric surgery.
- Nutritional therapy treatment for obesity is covered for Medicaid members.

Reference source, if applicable: N/A


APPROVED: *Michele Bauer MD.*

DATE: 02/10/2024

Formal policies and procedures require department manager review, approval and signature. Executive and/or administrative policies and procedures require CEO/General Manager review, approval and signature.

REVISION HISTORY:

Rev. Date	Revised By/Title	Summary of Revision
02/25/2013	Carol E. Ebel, RN HM Mgr	This is a continuation of the archived P & P.
07/29/2013	Jennifer Rust Anderson Compliance Manager	Clarification of coverage policy for obesity vs. cardiovascular/diet risk factors per PPACA
02/15/2014	Lynne Komanec, RN HM Manager	Reviewed with no changes
01/23/2015	Betsy Kelly, RN	Removed Core Plan references.
05/06/2015	Betsy Kelly, RN	Added codes for Badgercare/Medicaid/bill under supervising provider.
04/22/2016	Betsy Kelly, RN	Reviewed with no changes.
04/25/2017	Michele Bauer, MD, CMO	Reviewed with no changes other than formatting.
05/23/2019	Michele Bauer, MD, CMO	Reviewed and updated criteria.
05/14/2020	Michele Bauer, MD, CMO	Reviewed. No changes.
03/10/2021	Michele Bauer, MD, CMO	Reviewed. No changes.
02/15/2022	Michele Bauer, MD, CMO	Reviewed. No changes.

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02/15/2023	Michele Bauer, MD, CMO	Reviewed. No changes.
02/10/2024	Michele Bauer, MD, CMO	Updated commercial coverage criteria.