

## **ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY**

**Program Name:** Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)

**Policy Number:** VR-8.4-v1

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2008

**Last Revision:** March 31,2021

**CHAPTER 8:** Assessment Services

**Section 8.4:** Assessments: Comprehensive Neurorehabilitation

### **I. Policy Statement**

This policy provides the guidelines regarding the provision of neuro-rehabilitation assessments for applicants/clients with injuries, diseases, and disorders of the central and peripheral nervous system when the existing documentation is insufficient for determining eligibility, functional limitations, or scope of VR services.

### **II. Authority**

Authority for policies contained in this document includes the following:

- Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), 29 U.S.C. § 3101 et seq.
- Title IV Amendments to the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. § 701 et seq.
- State Vocational Rehabilitation Services Program, 34 C.F.R. §§:
  - Scope of vocational rehabilitation services for individuals with disabilities 361.48 (b)(1-2)
  - Comparable services and benefits 361.53 (b)(1)
  - Participation of individuals in cost of services based on financial need 361.54 (b)(3)(i)(A-B)
- A.R.S. §§ 23-502 and 503
- Arizona Administrative Code, Title 6, Chapter 4:
  - General considerations R6-4-201 (A)(1)(a)
  - Diagnostic Study R6-4-203
  - Service and provider standards, service authorizations equipment purchasing, Workers' Compensation R6-4-402 (A)(2) and (B)(2)(a-b)
  - Economic need and similar benefits R6-4-403 (A)(1)(b)(i-ii) and (B)(2)(b)(iv)

### **III. Applicability**

This applies to circumstances when a neuro-rehabilitation assessment is authorized and purchased by VR.

#### **IV. Standards**

- A. The VR Counselor must provide the service provider with the following referral information:
  - 1. Pertinent background information regarding the applicant/client's disability and vocational objectives, and
  - 2. A specific list of questions regarding the implications of the applicant/client's disability in terms of employment.
- B. Economic need does not apply.
- C. Comparable benefits do not apply.
- D. Comprehensive neuro-rehabilitation assessment is utilized for applicants/clients who need post-acute treatment, or disability skills development services that address the injuries, diseases, and disorders of the central and peripheral nervous system to include:
  - 1. Brain Injury (acquired or traumatic brain injury),
  - 2. Spinal Cord Injury (disease, injury or disorder),
  - 3. Neuromuscular Diseases,
  - 4. Cerebral Palsy,
  - 5. Peripheral Neuropathies,
  - 6. Multiple Sclerosis,
  - 7. Epilepsy,
  - 8. Parkinson's disease.
- E. Results from a comprehensive neuro-rehabilitation evaluation must include a vocational assessment with an analysis of the applicant/client's personality, career interests, social pragmatics, intelligence and related cognitive functions, educational achievement, work experience, vocational aptitudes, and employment opportunities.
- F. Comprehensive neuro-rehabilitation evaluation must be limited to information that is necessary to identify the rehabilitation needs of the applicant/client and develop the IPE.
- G. Comprehensive neuro-rehabilitation evaluation must include an analysis of the pertinent medical, psychiatric, neuropsychological and other vocational, educational, cultural, social, recreational other factors, and related functional

limitations that affect the employability and rehabilitation needs of the applicant/client.

- H. Follow up consultation is provided after the initial assessment.
- I. The follow up consultation must include the VR Counselor, the applicant/client and their advocates, and the multidisciplinary evaluation team members.
- J. The follow up consultation must provide the following information about the applicant/client:
  - 1. Feasibility of pursuing competitive employment,
  - 2. The need for extended supports,
  - 3. The current family or community supports,
  - 4. The transferable skills,
  - 5. Rehabilitation needs (cognitive, social, and physical), and level and duration of services needed to achieve a vocational outcome.
- K. Follow-up assessment is utilized to address issues which were not addressed in depth, due to time constraints, during the initial assessment or to address issues that were identified during the initial assessment.
- L. Only one assessment is allowed per case.
- M. Refer to Section 9.7 Treatments-Neurorehabilitation regarding corresponding treatment services.

**V. Procedure**

- A. Refer to IV.A (1-2) above.
- B. Refer to Standard Work, if available.
- C. Refer to the RSA Allowable Services Spreadsheet, contract, and provider requirements.
- D. The VR Counselor must complete the "MSP New Client Referral Form" (located on the MSP AZVRS State Portal via the Links tab in Libera) to submit the referral for Comprehensive Neurorehabilitation Services to Managed Service Provider (MSP) for service provider selection.
- E. Upon confirmation of service provider selection, the agency Referral for Services form may be completed with additional pertinent information relating to the client and service provision to be provided directly to the service provider.
- F. The VR Counselor must task the Purchasing Technician to create RSA Purchase Authorization for the service listed in V. D.

- G. The Purchasing Technician must submit the RSA Purchase Authorization for the service listed in V. D directly to MSP.
- H. Upon receipt of the provider's assessment report, the VR Counselor must review the report for completeness, approve the provider's invoice and process for payment after confirming that the reporting documentation is complete.

**VI. Documentation Requirements**

The applicant/client's electronic case file must include the following:

- A. Referral information,
- B. RSA Purchase Authorization(s),
- C. Comprehensive neuro-rehabilitation assessment report.