



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona

DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Sent on Behalf of DES/DDD

THERAPY SERVICES DAILY LIMITS

Target Audience - Qualified Vendors and Providers

Transmittal Date - 06/15/2022

As previously communicated, DDD is updating its claims system in order to be compliant with state and federal regulations and to resolve the AHCCCS HIPAA TCS Compliance Claims Processing System Notice to Cure. As part of the Notice to Cure, the Division is required to develop a claims system that conforms to the Medicaid National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI). DDD has contracted with WellSky to provide this new claims system.

The Medicaid NCCI regulations set daily maximum limits for each service and vary from one service type to another. While most of the HCBS services are unchanged, therapy services are the most impacted. The Division is working with members, families, and vendors to better understand the impact of daily limits for therapy services.

The daily limit for each therapy service according to the Medicaid NCCI regulations are:

- Physical Therapy - 6 units of 15 minute increments (equivalent to 1.5 hours)
- Occupational Therapy - 8 units of 15 minute increments (equivalent to 2 hours)
- Speech Therapy - 1 unit of untimed service which means it can be any length of time

The daily limits will be implemented on August 1, 2022 when the WellSky Billing System goes live.

The Division posted *Provider Policy Manual Chapter 37 Therapy Services* for public comment on May 18, 2022 aligning DDD policy to NCCI regulations in addition to adding details for changes to missed/make-up sessions needing to occur within the current authorization period within 30 calendar days and shall occur on a separate and distinguished date.

The Division recognizes some members receive feeding therapy and speech therapy on the same day causing conflicts with the daily limits. The Division is reviewing this scenario and is examining potential solutions.