



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona

DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Sent on Behalf of DES/DDD

THERAPY SERVICES DAILY LIMITS UPDATE

Target Audience - Qualified Vendors and Providers

Transmittal Date - 08/25/2022

As communicated on June 15, 2022, the Division is developing a claims system that conforms to the Medicaid National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI). 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 September 1, 2022 when the WellSky billing system goes live.

The Division recognizes some members receive feeding therapy and speech therapy on the same day, which causes conflicts with the daily limits. The Division developed the following billing guidance for situations where speech therapy sessions are delivered on the same day as a feeding therapy session. The Division has created additional published rates where the rate will be double the normal rate for all settings and tiers in these situations. As one example for speech therapy base rate in the natural home:

Table with 5 columns: Service, Unit, Type, Rate, Max Units. It lists two rows of therapy services with their respective rates and unit limits.

Qualified Vendors will be required to submit claims for only one unit, but the rate will cover both sessions. These rates will be effective as of September 1, 2021 to allow for claims to be submitted through WellSky.