

Title 10- Department of Health Rules and Regulations

Effective Date: 07/17/97

Title: Section 69-4.30 - Computation of rates for early intervention services provided to infants and children ages birth to three years old and their families or caregivers

69-4.30 Computation of rates for early intervention services provided to infants and children ages birth to three years old and their families or caregivers.

(a) The commissioner shall annually determine the rates for approved early intervention services and evaluations provided to eligible children, subject to the approval of the director of the budget. For payments made pursuant to this section for early intervention services to Medicaid patients, reimbursement shall be based upon a uniform payment schedule with discrete prices as set forth in subdivision (d) of this section. To be eligible to receive reimbursement pursuant to this section, providers must be approved to provide early intervention services pursuant to Article 25 of the Public Health Law.

(b) For purposes of this section, a billable visit shall mean a face to face contact for the provision of authorized early intervention services between a provider of early intervention services and the individual(s) receiving such services, except for service coordination as described in subdivision (c)(3) of this section. Duration shall mean the time spent by a provider of early intervention services providing direct care or client contact. Activities such as case recording, training and conferences, supervisory conferences, team meetings and administrative work are not separately billable activities.

(c) Reimbursement shall be available at prices established pursuant to this section for the following early intervention program services:

(1) Screening as defined in section 69-4.1(II) of this Subpart and performed in accordance with section 69-4.8 of this Subpart. A provider shall submit one claim for a screening regardless of the number of visits required to perform and complete a screening. Reimbursement may be provided for up to two screenings of a child suspected of having a developmental delay in any twelve month period without prior approval of the Early Intervention Official. The Early Intervention Official shall approve and notify the department of any additional screenings provided to a child within the twelve month period. If additional screenings are necessary, such notice shall be provided on a monthly basis on forms provided by the department. Reimbursement shall not be provided for screenings performed after a child has been found eligible for early intervention services.

(2) Multidisciplinary evaluation as defined in section 69-4.1(m) of this Subpart and performed in accordance with section 69-4.8 of this Subpart. Reimbursable

evaluations shall include core evaluations and supplemental evaluations. A provider shall submit one claim for a core or supplemental evaluation regardless of the number of visits required to perform and complete the evaluation.

(i) A core evaluation shall include a developmental assessment, a review of pertinent records and a parent interview as specified in section 69-4.8(a)(4) of this Subpart, and may include a family assessment.

(a) A developmental assessment shall mean procedures conducted by qualified personnel with sufficient expertise in early childhood development who are trained in the use of professionally acceptable methods and procedures to evaluate each of the developmental domains: physical development, cognitive development, communication development, social or emotional development and adaptive development.

(b) A family assessment shall mean a voluntary, family-directed assessment conducted by qualified personnel who are trained in the use of professionally acceptable methods and procedures to assist the family in identifying their concerns, priorities and resources related to the development of the child.

(ii) Supplemental evaluations shall include supplemental physician or non-physician evaluations and shall be provided upon the recommendation of the multi-disciplinary team conducting the core evaluation and agreement of the child's parent. A supplemental evaluation may also be provided in conjunction with the core evaluation by a specialist trained in the area of the child's suspected delay or disability who is present during the core evaluation as required by section 69-4.8(a)(3) of this Subpart and who provides an in-depth assessment of the child's strengths and needs in such area. Supplemental evaluations provided subsequent to the child's Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) must be required by and performed in accordance with the IFSP as specified in section 69-4.8(a)(13) of this Subpart.

(a) Supplemental physician evaluation shall mean an evaluation by a physician licensed pursuant to article 131 of the Education Law for the purpose of providing specific medical information regarding physical or mental conditions that may impact on the growth and development of the child and completing the required evaluation of the child's physical development as specified in section 69-4.8(a)(4)(i)(a) of this Subpart, or assessing specific needs in one or more of the developmental domains in accordance with section 69-4.8(a)(4)(iv) of this Subpart.

(b) Supplemental non-physician evaluation shall mean an additional evaluation for assessing the child's specific needs in one or more of the developmental domains in accordance with section 69-4.8(a)(4)(iv) of this Subpart. Information obtained from this evaluation shall provide direction as to the specific early intervention services that may be required for the child.

Supplemental non-physician evaluations may be conducted only by qualified personnel as defined in section 69-4.1(jj) of this Subpart.

(iii)(a) A multidisciplinary evaluation consisting of a core evaluation and up to four supplemental evaluations (which may include any combination of physician and non-physician evaluations) may be reimbursed within a 12 month period without prior approval of the Early Intervention Official to develop and implement the initial IFSP and subsequent annual IFSPs. The Early Intervention Official shall approve and notify the department of any additional core or supplemental evaluations provided to a child within a twelve month period. If additional core or supplemental evaluations are necessary, such notice shall be provided on a monthly basis on forms provided by the department. Additional core or supplemental evaluations provided subsequent to the child's initial IFSP must be required by and performed in accordance with the IFSP as specified in section 69-4.8(a)(13) of this Subpart.

(b) Certain evaluation and assessment procedures may be repeated if deemed necessary and appropriate by the Early Intervention Official in conjunction with the required annual evaluation of the child's IFSP or more frequently in accordance with section 69-4.8(a)(12) of this Subpart. If additional evaluation or assessment procedures are necessary, the Early Intervention Official shall approve up to one more core evaluation and two supplemental evaluations prior to the next annual IFSP. Such additional evaluations must be required by and performed in accordance with the child's IFSP as specified in section 69-4.8(a)(13) of this Subpart. Any additional evaluations within that period shall be based on the indicators specified in section 69-4.8(a)(12), approved by the Early Intervention Official and the Commissioner of Health of the New York State Department of Health and required by and performed in accordance with the child's IFSP.

(3) Service coordination as defined in section 69-4.1(k)(2)(xi) of this Subpart. Service coordination shall be provided by appropriate qualified personnel and billed in 15 minute units that reflect the time spent providing services in accordance with sections 69-4.6 and 69-4.7 of this Subpart, or billed under a capitation methodology as may be established by the Commissioner subject to the approval of the Director of the Budget. When units of time are billed, the first unit shall reflect the initial five to fifteen minutes of service provided and each unit thereafter shall reflect up to an additional fifteen minutes of service provided. Except for child/family interviews to make assessments and plans, contacts for service coordination need not be face-to-face encounters; they may include contacts with service providers or a child's parent, caregiver, daycare worker or other similar collateral contacts, in fulfillment of the child's IFSP.

(4) Assistive technology as defined in section 69-4.1(k)(2)(ii) of this Subpart;

(5) Home and community-based individual/collateral visit. This shall mean the provision by appropriate qualified personnel of early intervention services to an eligible child and/or parent(s) or other designated caregiver at the child's home or other natural setting in which children under three years of age are typically found (including day care centers, other than those located at the same premises as the early intervention provider, and family day care homes). Reimbursable home and community-based individual/collateral visits shall include basic and extended visits.

(i) A basic visit is less than one hour in duration. Up to three (3) such visits provided by appropriate qualified personnel within different disciplines per day may be billed for each eligible child as specified in an approved IFSP without prior approval of the Early Intervention Official.

(ii) An extended visit is one hour or more in duration. Up to three (3) such visits provided by appropriate qualified personnel within different disciplines per day may be billed for each eligible child as specified in an approved IFSP without prior approval of the Early Intervention Official.

(iii) Notwithstanding subparagraphs (i) and (ii) of this paragraph, no more than three (3) basic and extended visits combined per day may be billed for each eligible child as specified in an approved IFSP without prior approval of the Early Intervention Official.

(iv) A provider shall not bill for a basic and extended visit provided on the same day by appropriate qualified personnel within the same discipline without prior approval of the Early Intervention Official.

(6) Office/facility-based individual/collateral visit. This shall mean the provision by appropriate qualified personnel of early intervention services to an eligible child and/or parent(s) or other designated caregiver at an approved early intervention provider's site (including day care centers located at the same premises as the early intervention provider). Up to one (1) visit per discipline and no more than three (3) office/facility-based visits per day may be billed for each eligible child as specified in an approved IFSP without prior approval of the Early Intervention Official.

(7) Parent-child group visit. This shall mean the provision of early intervention services in a group comprised of parent(s) or other designated caregivers and eligible children, and a minimum of one appropriate professional qualified to provide early intervention services at an early intervention provider's site or a community-based site (e.g. day care center, family day care, or other community settings). Up to one (1) visit per day may be billed for each eligible child as specified in an approved IFSP without prior approval of the Early Intervention Official.

(8) Basic group developmental intervention visit. This shall mean the provision of early intervention services by appropriate qualified personnel to eligible children in a group which may also include children without disabilities, at an approved early intervention provider's site or in a community-based setting where children under three years of age are typically found.

(i) Up to one (1) group developmental intervention visit per day may be billed for each eligible child as specified in an approved IFSP without prior approval of the Early Intervention Official.

(ii) For purposes of subparagraph (i) of this paragraph and subparagraphs (i) of paragraphs (9) through (11) of this subdivision, a group developmental intervention visit shall include a basic visit as described in this paragraph, an enhanced visit as described in paragraph (9) of this subdivision, a basic with one-to-one aide visit as described in paragraph (10) of this subdivision, or an enhanced with one-to-one aide visit as described in paragraph (11) of this subdivision.

(9) Enhanced group developmental intervention visit. This shall mean a group developmental intervention visit as defined in paragraph (8) of this subdivision provided to a child who, due to age, significant medical needs (such as major feeding difficulties, severe orthopaedic impairment), significant behavior management needs and/or level of developmental functioning, require significantly more time and attention from adults during group activities.

(i) Up to one (1) group developmental intervention visit per day may be billed for each eligible child as specified in an approved IFSP without prior approval of the Early Intervention Official.

(10) Basic group developmental intervention with one-to-one aide visit. This shall mean the provision of early intervention services by appropriate qualified personnel to eligible children in a group which may also include children without disabilities, with attendance at the group developmental intervention session by an additional aide or appropriate qualified personnel. This visit must be provided at an approved early intervention provider's site or in a community-based setting where children under three years of age are typically found.

(i) Up to one (1) group developmental intervention visit per day may be billed for each eligible child as specified in an approved IFSP without prior approval of the Early Intervention Official.

(11) Enhanced group developmental intervention with one-to-one aide visit. This shall mean a group developmental intervention with one-to-one aide visit as defined in paragraph (10) of this subdivision provided to a child who, due to age, significant medical needs (such as major feeding difficulties, severe orthopaedic impairment), significant behavior management needs and/or level of

developmental functioning, require significantly more time and attention from adults during group activities.

(i) Up to one (1) group developmental intervention visit per day may be billed for each eligible child as specified in an approved IFSP without prior approval of the Early Intervention Official.

(12) Family/caregiver support group visit. This shall mean the provision of early intervention services by appropriate qualified personnel to a group of parents or other designated caregivers (such as foster parents, day care staff) and/or siblings of eligible children for the purposes of:

(i) enhancing their capacity to care for and/or enhance the development of the eligible child; and/or (ii) provide support, education, and guidance to such individuals relative to the child's unique developmental needs. Up to two (2) visits per day may be billed for each eligible child as specified in an approved IFSP without prior approval of the Early Intervention Official (for example, one (1) for parents or other designated caregivers and one (1) for sibling(s) in a given day).

(13) The Early Intervention Official shall approve and notify the department of any visits provided in addition to those described in paragraphs (5) through (12) as may be required by and provided in accordance with the child's IFSP. If such additional visits are necessary, such notice shall be provided on a monthly basis on forms provided by the department.

(d) The prices established pursuant to this section shall provide full reimbursement for the following:

(1) physician services, nursing services, therapist services, technician services, nutrition services, psychosocial services, service coordination, and other related professional and paraprofessional expenses directly incurred by the approved provider;

(2) space occupancy, except as provided in subdivision (f) of this section, and plant overhead costs;

(3) all supplies directly related to the provision of early intervention services, except as provided in subdivision (g) of this section; and

(4) administrative, personnel, business office, data processing, recordkeeping, housekeeping, and other related provider overhead expenses.

(e) The price for each service shall be adjusted for regional differences in wage levels to reflect differences in labor costs for personnel providing direct care and support staff and shall include consideration of absentee data and child to professional to paraprofessional ratios.

(f) Until June 30, 1996, those early intervention service providers authorized to provide services pursuant to section 236 of the Family Court Act during 1993, shall be reimbursed for actual allowable capital costs obligated prior to July 1, 1993 that are associated with the provision of early intervention services described in subdivision (c) of this section. Capital costs shall be defined as depreciation or amortization, and interest associated with acquisition and/or construction of the physical plant and lease expenses including leasehold improvements associated with the physical plant.

(g) Assistive Technology Devices - Reimbursement for approved assistive technology devices shall be at reasonable and customary charges approved by the Commissioner or her designee.

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