SmartPA Criteria

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| Procedure Class: | Biopsychosocial Treatment of Obesity |
| First Implementation Date: | 09/01/2021 |
| Prepared For: | MO HealthNet |
| Prepared By: | MO HealthNet/Conduent |
| Criteria Status: | Existing Criteria  Revision of Existing Criteria  New Criteria |

Executive Summary

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| **Purpose:** | The MO HealthNet Program will implement a state-specific Biopsychosocial Treatment of Obesity Program | | |
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| **Why was this Issue Selected:** | MO HealthNet to implement an electronic web-based system to authorize Biopsychosocial Treatment of Obesity  Prevention and management services using best medical evidence and treatment guidelines, consistent with national standards to verify medical need. | | |
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| **Procedures subject to Pre-Certification:** | **Medical Nutrition Therapy**  **97802:** Initial Face-to-Face Assessment by Registered Dietitian,  1 unit = 15 minutes.  **97803:** Face-to-Face Visit for Re-Assessment by Registered Dietitian,  1 unit = 15 minutes  **Intensive Behavioral Therapy**  **G0447:** Face-to Face Behavioral Counseling for Obesity,  1 unit = 15 minutes  **G0473:** Face-to-Face Behavioral Counseling for Obesity, Group (2-10),  1 unit = 30 minutes | | |
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| **Setting & Population:** | All Appropriate MO HealthNet Fee-For-Service Participants- All ages | | |
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| **Data Sources:** | | **Medicare LCD** | **MHN Policy** |

Default Approval Period

Default Approval Period: 6 months

Months 1-6

Months 7-12 (**TS** modifier)

Requirements

* Ages 0 through twenty (20) years for youth services or twenty-one (21) years of age or older for adult services;
* Not currently pregnant;
* Meet the definition of obese by meeting the following criteria:
  + For youth participants a body mass index (BMI) percentile equal to or greater than the ninety-fifth (95th) percentile for age and gender on the pediatric BMI chart.
  + For adult participants a BMI equal to or greater than thirty (30).
* Not concurrently receiving authorization for other MO HealthNet reimbursed weight reduction services.

The prescribing provider must obtain prior authorization before the participant starts receiving services.

MO HealthNet coverage for biopsychosocial treatment of obesity is an integrated approach to care that includes both medical nutrition therapy and behavioral health counseling to improve weight status. Pre-certification for either treatment component in isolation will not be granted.

To obtain pre-certification, enrolled providers can contact the MO HealthNet Medical Pre-Certification Unit at 1-800-392-8030, Option 7, or use the CyberAccess website, a web tool that automates this process for MO HealthNet providers. To become a CyberAccess user, contact the help desk at 888-581-9797 or 573-632-9797, or email [cyberaccesshelpdesk@conduent.com](mailto:cyberaccesshelpdesk@conduent.com).

Quantity Limitations

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| **Medical Nutrition Therapy** | **Age 0-20**  **Max Allowed Hours/Units** | **Age 21 & Over**  **Max Allowed Hours/Units** |
| **1-6 months** | 97802 = 0.75 hour (3 units)  97803 = 1 hour (4 units) | 97802 = 0.75 hour (3 units)  97803 = 1 hour (4 units) |
| **7-12 months** | 97803 = 0.5 hour (2 units) | 97803 = 0.5 hour (2 units) |
| **Intensive Behavioral Therapy** |  |  |
| **1-6 months** | G0447 = 4 hour (16 units)  G0473 = 22 hour (44 units) | G0447 = 3 hour (12 units)  G0473 = 9 hour (18 units) |
| **7-12 months** | G0447 = 1 hour (4 units)  G0473 = 2 hour (4 units) | G0447 = 1 hour (4 units)  G0473 = 2 hour (4 units) |

\*\*\*Refer to the following bulletin and hot tip for additional information:

[Biopsychosocial Treatment of Obesity | mydss.mo.gov](https://mydss.mo.gov/media/pdf/biopsychosocial-treatment-obesity)

[Biopsychosocial Treatment of Obesity Policy Clarification | mydss.mo.gov](https://mydss.mo.gov/mhd/hot-tips/biopsychosocial-treatment-obesity-policy-clarification)