



Expanding Coverage of Breastfeeding Education/Lactation Counseling and Breast Pumps by NYS Medicaid

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Process for Changing NYS Medicaid Benefit – First Steps

Governor Cuomo established NYS Medicaid Redesign Team (MRT) by Executive Order, January 2011.

- Ten workgroups were established, including Basic Benefits.
- Proposals were invited from DOH, organizations, stakeholders, and the public. Proposals needed to include:
 - ✓ Rationale (evidence-base)
 - ✓ Recommendations (USPSTF, professional organizations - AAP, ACOG, AAFP)
 - ✓ Estimated costs (or savings)

Process for Changing NYS Medicaid Benefit – Next Steps

- ❖ NYS MRT Basic Benefits Workgroup recommended Lactation Counseling Services be added as a new benefit.
- ❖ NYSDOH public health staff and Medicaid staff:
 - Developed a State Plan Amendment
 - Submitted it to CMS June 2012
- ❖ CMS approved plan December 28, 2012
- ❖ NYSDOH worked with NYS Medicaid to develop the specifics of the breastfeeding education/lactation counseling benefit.

New York Medicaid Benefit

Breastfeeding Education / Lactation Counseling

- ❖ Effective dates:
 - April 1, 2013, Medicaid Fee-for-Service
 - May 1, 2013, Managed Care & Family Health Plus plans
- ❖ Population: Pregnant or postpartum woman
- ❖ Who can provide service and be reimbursed:
 - IBCLCs who are licensed and currently registered in New York as a physician, physician assistant, nurse midwife, nurse practitioner, or nurse.
- ❖ Where service can be provided:
 - Article 28 clinic, private practice, free-standing clinic or Federally-Qualified Health Center (FQHC).

What is the New Benefit?

- **A Distinct, Separate Billable Service**

- **Individual Sessions: Code S9445**
 - \$45.00 per session
 - Three visits allowed
 - The initial visit must be a minimum of 45 minutes
 - Follow-up session(s) must be a minimum of 30 minutes
 - During pregnancy or 12 months postpartum

- **Group Sessions: Code S9446**
 - \$15.00 per person per session
 - Two group sessions allowed
 - Group sessions must be at least 60 minutes
 - Up to a maximum of 8 participants in a group session
 - One session during the prenatal period and one session during the postpartum period

Participation in NY Medicaid

- Most women in NY who have Medicaid participate in Medicaid Managed Care Plans (MCPs).
- MCPs must provide lactation counseling services, but the payment structure is up to the discretion of the Managed Care organization (contractually negotiated rates).
- MCPs are expected to reimburse IBCLC licensed/registered health care professionals for breastfeeding education and lactation counseling.

NYS Medicaid - Improved Quality of Breast Pumps that were reimbursed

- ❖ NYS Medicaid covers the purchase of manual and personal use electric breast pumps.
 - To improve the quality & safety of breast pumps minimum pump specifications were developed and set.
www.health.ny.gov/community/pregnancy/breastfeeding/
 - This resulted in increased maximum reimbursement rates for both manual and personal electric pumps.
- ❖ NYS Medicaid also covers rental of hospital-grade electric pumps for preterm infants or infants with special needs.

New York Medicaid Coverage of Breast Pumps

Purchase:

E0602 Breast pump, manual, any type

Maximum Reimbursement Rate = \$31.71

E0603 Breast pump, electric (AC and/or DC), any type

Maximum Reimbursement Rate = \$173.47

Rental:

E0604 Breast pump, hospital grade, electric (AC and/or DC), any type

Maximum Reimbursement Rate = \$38.61/month

Policy Comparisons

- **NYS Medicaid Policy**
 - Medicaid Insurance
 - IBCLC healthcare professionals
 - Covers purchase of manual and personal-use electric pumps, rental of hospital grade pumps, and kits
 - No coverage for donor human milk
- **USBC Recommendations**
 - ACA health insurance plans: preventive health services
 - Credentialed by insurers, e.g. IBCLCs
 - Covers purchase of personal-use electric pumps, rental of hospital grade pumps, and kits
 - Covers pasteurized donor human milk

Policy Comparisons

- **NYS Medicaid Policy**
 - Two group classes
 - * One prenatal class
 - * One postpartum class
 - Inpatient bundled services
 - 3 outpatient visits:
 - * Initial minimum 45 mins
 - * F/U minimum 30 mins
- **USBC Recommendations**
 - Class/groups:
 - * One prenatal class
 - * Support groups: Up to 12 (monthly); no postpartum class
 - Depends on provider providing inpatient service
 - 6 outpatient visits:
 - * Up to 2 hours per visit

Websites to visit

- <http://www.health.ny.gov/community/pregnancy/breastfeeding/>
 - See Medicaid Breastfeeding Promotion and Resources
- http://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/program/update/2013/march13_mu.pdf
- https://www.emedny.org/ProviderManuals/DME/PDFS/Pharmacy_Reimbursement_for_Breast_Pump_Specs_April_1_2013.pdf
- https://www.emedny.org/ProviderManuals/DME/PDFS/DME_Procedure_Codes.pdf
 - See pages 7-9 and 83

Next Steps

