

Affected Programs: BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid

To: Audiologists, Hearing Instrument Specialists, Speech and Hearing Clinics, HMOs and Other Managed Care Programs

Revised Hearing Aid Contract Models and Pricing Effective March 1, 2019

Covered Hearing Aid Models and Purchase Rate Changes

The Division of Medicaid Services has volume purchase contracts with several hearing aid manufacturers for coverage of certain hearing aid models. Effective for dates of service on and after March 1, 2019, Rexton, Signia, and Unitron have indicated mid-year revisions to their covered hearing aid models and, in some cases, the associated purchase rates. In addition, hearing aids identified as Hansaton models are now classified as Unitron models. Refer to the Attachment of this *ForwardHealth Update* for a list of newly covered hearing aid models and revised purchase rates.

For a complete list of all contracted hearing aid models and pricing, refer to the Contracted Hearing Aid Models topic (topic #2996) in the Codes chapter of the Covered and Noncovered Services section of the Hearing service area of the ForwardHealth Online Handbook.

Prior Authorization Amendments

If a provider received an approved prior authorization (PA) request before March 1, 2019, for a hearing aid with a revised purchase rate, and the hearing aid will be dispensed after March 1, 2019, the provider will be required to amend the PA request to reflect the revised purchase rate.

Enddated Hearing Aid Models

Effective March 1, 2019, the following hearing aids are no longer available on the contract:

- Hansaton models:
 - ✓ Jam HD 3 HS (half shell)
 - ✓ Jam HD 5 HS (half shell)
 - ✓ Jam HD 7 HS (half shell)
- Rexton models:
 - ✓ CROS + Emerald M 60 8c
 - ✓ CROS + Emerald M 80 8c
 - ✓ CROS + Emerald S 60 8c
 - ✓ CROS + Emerald S 80 8c
 - ✓ CROS + Mosaic 60 8c
 - ✓ CROS + Mosaic 80 8c
 - ✓ Sterling 60 (half shell)
 - ✓ Sterling 80 (half shell)
- Signia models (half-shell and low profile):
 - ✓ Insio 1 px
 - ✓ Insio 2 px
 - ✓ Insio 3 px

ForwardHealth will not approve PA requests for these hearing aids when submitted on or after March 1, 2019. If one of these hearing aids was approved on a PA request prior to March 1, 2019, and will be dispensed on or after March 1, 2019, the hearing aid will be reimbursed.

Manufacturer Equipment Warranty Clarification

Contracted hearing aid models are covered by the manufacturer under a **minimum** 24-month equipment warranty. The equipment warranty includes parts and labor. The equipment warranty does not cover the ear mold, cord, or batteries. As of September 1, 2018, some manufacturers offer an equipment warranty greater than 24 months.

Effective September 1, 2018, equipment warranties for each manufacturer are as follows:

- Beltone — 24 months
- GN Resound — 36 months
- Oticon, Inc. — 36 months
- Sonova USA, Inc. (product lines: Hansaton, Phonak, Unitron) — 36 months
- Sivantos, Inc. (products lines: Rexton, Signia) — 36 months
- Starkey Laboratories, Inc. — 36 months
- Widex USA, LLC — 36 months

For more information regarding hearing aid warranties and repairs, refer to the Warranty and Repair topic (topic #2981) in the Covered Services and Requirements chapter of the Covered and Noncovered Services section of the Hearing service area of the Online Handbook.

Information Regarding Managed Care Organizations

This *Update* contains fee-for-service policy and applies to services members receive on a fee-for-service basis only. For managed care policy, contact the appropriate managed care organization (MCO). MCOs are required to provide at least the same benefits as those provided under fee-for-service arrangements.

The *ForwardHealth Update* is the first source of program policy and billing information for providers.

Wisconsin Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, SeniorCare, and Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program are administered by the Division of Medicaid Services, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS). The Wisconsin AIDS Drug Assistance Program and the Wisconsin Well Woman Program are administered by the Division of Public Health, DHS.

For questions, call Provider Services at 800-947-9627 or visit our website at www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/.

P-1250

This *Update* was issued on 02/19/2019 and information contained in this *Update* was incorporated into the Online Handbook on 03/01/2019.

ATTACHMENT

Added Hearing Aid Models and Revised Purchase Rates (Effective March 1, 2019)

Effective for dates of service on and after March 1, 2019, the following are additional covered hearing aid models and revised pricing provided by Rexton, Signia, and Unitron. In addition, hearing aids identified as Hansaton hearing aids are now classified as Unitron hearing aids.

For a complete list of all contracted hearing aid models, refer to the Contracted Hearing Aid Models topic (topic #2996) in the Codes chapter of the Covered and Noncovered Services section of the Hearing service area of the ForwardHealth Online Handbook.

V5181 — Hearing aid, contralateral routing device, monaural, behind the ear (BTE) (Applicable modifiers: LT, RR, RT) (For binaural, use V5221 [Applicable modifier: LT, RR, RT])						
Manufacturer and Style	Model(s)	Purchase Rate for Monaural	Purchase Rate for Binaural	Repair Rate Per Unit	Repair Warranty	Description of Change
Rexton	CROS + Emerald M 60 6c	\$562.20	\$562.20	\$95.00	12 months	Added model
	CROS + Emerald M 80 6c	\$749.40	\$749.40			Added model
	CROS + Emerald S 60 6c	\$562.20	\$562.20			Added model
	CROS + Emerald S 80 6c	\$749.40	\$749.40			Added model
	CROS + Mosaic 60 6c	\$562.20	\$562.20			Added model
	CROS + Mosaic 80 6c	\$749.40	\$749.40			Added model

V5256 — Hearing aid, digital, monaural, ITE (Applicable modifiers: LT, RR, RT) (For binaural, use V5260 [Applicable modifier: RR].)						
Manufacturer and Style	Model(s)	Purchase Rate for Monaural	Purchase Rate for Binaural	Repair Rate Per Unit	Repair Warranty	Description of Change
Unitron — Full Shell	JamSHD 3	\$242.00	\$484.00	\$100.00	12 months	Added model
	JamSHD 5	\$340.00	\$680.00			Added model
Unitron — Half Shell	JamSHD 3	\$253.00	\$506.00			Added model
	JamSHD 5	\$298.00	\$596.00			Added model
	JamSHD 7	\$418.00	\$836.00			Added model

**V5257 — Hearing aid, digital, monaural, BTE (Applicable modifiers: LT, RR, RT)
(For binaural, use V5261 [Applicable modifier: RR].)**

Manufacturer and Style	Model(s)	Purchase Rate for Monaural	Purchase Rate for Binaural	Repair Rate Per Unit	Repair Warranty	Description of Change
Rexton	Emerald M 60	\$390.25	\$780.50	\$95.00	12 months	Revised rate
	Emerald M 80	\$419.76	\$839.52			Revised rate
	Emerald S 60	\$390.25	\$780.50			Revised rate
	Emerald S 80	\$419.76	\$839.52			Revised rate
	Mosaic M 60	\$390.25	\$780.50			Revised rate
	Mosaic M 80	\$419.76	\$839.52			Revised rate
Signia	Pure CG NX 3	\$428.67	\$857.34	\$95.00	12 months	Revised rate
Unitron	AQ jamSHD 3	\$374.00	\$748.00	\$100.00	12 months	Added model
	AQ jamSHD 5	\$439.60	\$879.20			Added model
	AQ soundSHD 3	\$374.00	\$748.00			Added model
	AQ soundSHD 5	\$439.60	\$879.20			Added model
	Flow 1	\$180.00	\$360.00			Added model
	Flow 2	\$281.75	\$563.50			Added model
	Beat 3	\$253.00	\$506.00			Added model
	jamSHD 3	\$242.00	\$484.00			Added model
	jamSHD 5	\$340.00	\$680.00			Added model
	soundHD 3	\$199.00	\$398.00			Added model
	soundSHD3	\$242.00	\$484.00			Added model
	soundSHD 5	\$340.00	\$680.00	Added model		
	Tempus Moxi Fit-R 600 (includes charger case & battery)	\$385.00	\$769.99	\$75.00	12 months	Revised rate
	Tempus Stride M-R 600 (includes charger case & battery)	\$385.00	\$769.99			Revised rate