

ForwardHealth **UPDATE**

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NEW PRIOR AUTHORIZATION PROCESS FOR THERAPY PROVIDERS IN THE BIRTH TO 3 PROGRAM PROVIDING COTREATMENT

Effective January 8, 2024, therapy providers providing services through the Birth to 3 Program may submit the Prior Authorization/Birth to 3 Attachment (PA/B3) form, F-11011 (07/2012), when requesting PA for **cotreatment services** identified in a participant's Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP).

Therapy providers who provide cotreatment to Birth to 3 Program participants **are no longer required** to submit an additional Prior Authorization/Therapy Attachment (PA/TA) form, F-11008 (08/2017), for coverage of those services.

Therapy providers only need to submit one form (PA/B3) instead of two (PA/B3 and PA/TA) with the Prior Authorization/Request Form (PA/RF), F-11018 (05/2013). Reducing the number of forms required, which

AFFECTED PROGRAMS

BadgerCare Plus, Birth to 3 Program, Medicaid

TO

Hospital Providers, Nurse Practitioners, Occupational Therapists, Physical Therapists, Physician Assistants, Physician Clinics, Physicians, Rehabilitation Agencies, Speech-Language Pathologists, Therapy Groups, HMOs and Other Managed Care Programs

The information provided in this ForwardHealth Update is published in accordance with Wis. Admin. Code §§ DHS 90.10(5)(d), 107.16, 107.17, and 107.18.

also removes the manual review process, will reduce wait times and support teaming for Birth to 3 Program therapy providers.

Appropriateness of cotreatment is determined by the IFSP team and should be identified in the current IFSP. As the PA/B3 is only required to be submitted once per child per therapy discipline and billing provider, any changes to the Birth to 3 participant's services, including changes to cotreatment, should be documented in the updated IFSP.

The new policy will only impact Birth to 3 Program cotreatment therapy services provided by physical therapists, occupational therapists, and speech-language pathologists as documented in a participant's IFSP.

Every therapy provider rendering services to Birth to 3 Program participants will still be required to submit a PA/B3 form for their respective therapy service. These individual submissions of the PA/B3 form ensures all therapy services requested are covered.

All billing rules for cotreatment still apply and all procedure codes for cotreatment sessions will remain the same. Refer to the following topics of the ForwardHealth Online Handbook for more information on requesting services for Birth to 3 Program participants:

- Requirements topic ([#2723](#))
- Occupational Therapy Birth to 3 Procedure Codes topic ([#2796](#))
- Physical Therapy Birth to 3 Procedure Codes topic ([#2797](#))
- Speech and Language Pathology Birth to 3 Procedure Codes topic ([#2798](#))

Documentation Retention

Providers are reminded that they must follow the documentation retention requirements per Wis. Admin. Code § DHS [106.02\(9\)](#). Providers are required to produce or submit documentation, or both, to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) upon request. Per Wis. Stat. § [49.45\(3\)\(f\)](#), providers of services shall maintain records as required by DHS for verification of provider claims for reimbursement. DHS may audit such records to verify the actual provision of services and the appropriateness and accuracy of claims. DHS may deny or recoup payment for services that fail to meet these requirements. Refusal to produce documentation may result in denial of submitted claims, recoupment of paid claims, application of intermediate sanctions, or termination from the Medicaid program.

REMINDER

What is cotreatment?

Under the Birth to 3 Program, cotreatment occurs when a participant's IFSP team determines the participant needs cotreatment from two therapy providers of two different disciplines. These are sometimes referred to as "joint visits" by Birth to 3 Program providers. More information about the cotreatment policy is available in the Cotreatment topic ([#2728](#)) of the Online Handbook.

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Information Regarding Managed Care Organizations

This ForwardHealth Update applies to cotreatment therapy services delivered under the Birth to 3 Program that participants receive on a fee-for-service basis and through BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid SSI, and other managed care programs. For information about managed care implementation of the updated 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.

QUICK LINKS

- [Forms page](#)
- Requirements topic ([#2723](#))
- Cotreatment topics ([#2135](#) and [#2728](#))
- Individualized Family Services Plan topic ([#2756](#))
- Occupational Therapy Birth to 3 Procedure Codes topic ([#2796](#))
- Physical Therapy Birth to 3 Procedure Codes topic ([#2797](#))
- Speech and Language Pathology Birth to 3 Procedure Codes topic ([#2798](#))

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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 within 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 within DHS.

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