

ForwardHealth **UPDATE**

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CHANGES TO BLOOD PRESSURE MONITORING EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

ForwardHealth is removing restrictions from and clarifying requirements for coverage of blood pressure monitoring equipment.

Blood Pressure Monitors

Members can now receive blood pressure cuffs, automatic blood pressure monitors, and sphygmomanometers without requiring documentation of daily use when prescribed by providers acting within the scope of their practice.

Medical necessity for blood pressure equipment must be documented in a member's records. ForwardHealth reimburses only for services that are medically necessary, as defined under Wis. Admin. Code § [DHS 101.03\(96m\)](#). ForwardHealth may deny or recoup payment if a service fails to meet Medicaid medical necessity requirements.

Refer to the ForwardHealth Online Handbook Blood Pressure Monitor topic [#1842](#) for general information on blood pressure monitoring equipment.

AFFECTED PROGRAMS

BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid,
Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program

TO

Audiologists, Community Health Centers, HealthCheck Providers, Home Health Agencies, Hospice Providers, Hospital Providers, Individual Medical Supply Providers, Medical Equipment Vendors, Nurse Practitioners, Optometrists, Personal Care Agencies, Pharmacies, Pharmacists, Physician Assistants, Physician Clinics, Physicians, Prenatal Care Coordination Providers, Rehabilitation Agencies, Rural Health Clinics, Tribal Federally Qualified Health Centers, HMOs and Other Managed Care Programs

The information provided in this ForwardHealth Update is published in accordance with Wis. Admin. Code §§ DHS 101.03(96m) and 107.06.

Remote Blood Pressure Monitoring

ForwardHealth has **not** changed the requirements for remote blood pressure monitoring. Dispensing blood pressure equipment to members is separate from remotely monitoring their blood pressure.

Refer to the Remote Patient Monitoring topic #[22740](#) for more information on remote blood pressure monitoring.

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.

Information Regarding Managed Care Organizations

This ForwardHealth Update applies to blood pressure monitoring equipment that members 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

- Blood Pressure Monitor topic #[1842](#)
- Remote Patient Monitoring topic #[22740](#)

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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 HIV 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/.