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# WISCONSIN MEDICAID UPDATE

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OCTOBER 24, 1995

UPDATE 95-39

TO:  
Community Support  
Programs

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## Symptom Management/Psychosocial Rehabilitation: Coverage of Medication Compliance Monitoring by CSP Staff Other Than Physicians and Registered Nurses

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In response to questions from providers, this *Wisconsin Medicaid Update* clarifies that physicians and registered nurses, as well as other Community Support Program (CSP) staff, may perform medication compliance monitoring. However, Wisconsin Medicaid will cover medication compliance monitoring by CSP staff other than physicians and registered nurses *only* when the required conditions are met.

### What Medication Compliance Monitoring Includes

Medication compliance monitoring includes *only* one or more of the following:

1. observing the recipient taking medication (medication may be delivered by the staff in unit dose or prepared packages)
2. checking to see if the medications are gone from the reminder box
3. watching for side effects of the medication or signs of deterioration which would suggest the recipient is not taking the medication, and reporting these findings to a designated CSP staff member or other medical professional

### Conditions Required for Medication Compliance Monitoring by CSP Staff Other Than Physicians and Registered Nurses

Wisconsin Medicaid covers medication compliance monitoring by CSP staff other than physicians and registered nurses when the recipient's record demonstrates that it is necessary. The recipient's record must indicate all of the following:

- ✓ Through assessments, treatment plans or treatment plan reviews, it has been documented that without medication compliance monitoring, the recipient will fail to take medication as directed, and this is likely to lead to a deterioration in functioning.

- ✓ Alternatives to medication compliance monitoring, such as teaching techniques, use of injectables, use of medication organizers, etc., were considered. The specific alternatives should be reported in the recipient's record along with an explanation of why the staff decided these measures were inappropriate.
- ✓ Justification for the current frequency of medication compliance monitoring and how the staff will evaluate the continued need for medication compliance monitoring are documented. Information concerning the continued need for medication compliance monitoring may be documented in the recipient's six-month treatment plan review.

### **Additional Conditions Required for Medication Compliance Monitoring by Mental Health Technicians (MHTs)**

The following *additional* conditions are required for coverage of medication compliance monitoring by MHTs:

1. The MHT must follow a written protocol contained in the recipient's treatment plan. The protocol must describe all of the following:
  - ✓ the possible side effects of the medication, and the seriousness of each of those side effects
  - ✓ the signs of deterioration which would suggest the recipient is not taking the medication
  - ✓ how soon after discovering particular side effects or signs of deterioration the MHT should report them and to whom

2. A CSP professional or higher-level CSP staff member must see the recipient at least weekly to monitor the recipient's symptom status.

### **Submitting Claims for Medication Compliance Monitoring**

Submit claims for medication compliance monitoring performed by a CSP staff member *other than an MHT* using the CSP Symptom Management & Supportive Psychotherapy procedure code for the appropriate level of personnel:

W8240 - M.D.

W8241- Ph.D.

W8242- Master

W8243 - Professional

Submit claims for medication compliance monitoring performed by an MHT using procedure code W8274 for CSP Psychosocial Rehabilitation - Technician.

These procedure codes are found in Appendix 4 of your CSP handbook.

#### **Reminder:**

Wisconsin Medicaid covers *only* physicians and registered nurses for supervising a recipient putting medications in a reminder box.