

March 2, 2010

Montana Healthcare Programs Notice

Speech Language Pathologists

Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) Code 97532 for Speech Therapy

Effective January 1, 2010

The National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) with approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has issued a letter to the American Speech Language Hearing Association regarding the use of CPT® code **97532—Development of cognitive skills to improve attention, memory, problem solving, direct patient contact by the provider, each 15 minutes**. The procedure is now considered within the scope of practice for Speech Language Pathologists. This change in policy will be included in the next version of their manual.

Effective January 1, 2010, Montana Medicaid will begin covering CPT® 97532 as a covered service for Speech Language Pathologists. Claims dated January 1, 2010, forward will be considered for reimbursement.

For questions and more information, contact Rena Steyaert, Speech Therapy Program Officer, at (406) 444-4066 or rsteyaert@mt.gov.

Encl: (1) NCCI letter dated January 29, 2010

Contact Information

For claims questions or additional information, contact Provider Relations:

Provider Relations toll-free in- and out-of-state: 1-800-624-3958

Helena: (406) 442-1837

E-mail: MTPRHelpdesk@ACS-inc.com

Visit the Provider Information website:

<http://www.mtmedicaid.org>

National Correct Coding Initiative

Correct Coding Solutions, LLC

A Medicare Contractor

P.O. Box 907

Carmel, IN 46082-0907

Fax: 317-571-1745

January 29, 2010

Mr. Mark Kander
American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
10801 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852-3279

Dear Mr. Kander:

I thank you for your email dated January 5, 2010 in which you inquire about a statement in the *National Correct Coding Initiative Policy Manual for Medicare Services*. We discussed your email with CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) which owns the National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) and makes all decisions about its contents.

In particular you cite Chapter XI, Section H(2) which states:

“Speech language pathologists . . . They do not perform services coded as CPT codes 97110, 97112, 97150, 97530, or 97532 which are generally . . .”

CMS will eliminate the reference to CPT code 97532 in the next version of this Manual scheduled for October 1, 2010. The procedure described by CPT code 97532 is in the scope of practice for speech language pathologists.

CMS and we appreciate your assistance with the NCCI

Sincerely,



Niles R. Rosen, M.D.
Medical Director
National Correct Coding Initiative
Correct Coding Solutions LLC
Phone: 317-571-1720

Cc: Marsha Mason-Wonsley, CMS CPT Coding Specialist
Stephen C. White, PhD, ASHA
R. Wayne Holland, EdD, ASHA

