

# PROVIDER Update



Health Net®

REGULATORY

JUNE 26, 2018

UPDATE 18-384

3 PAGES

## Expanded List of Providers Who Can Authorize Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) for Medi-Cal Members (FFS and Shared Risk)

Effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2018, the list of Medi-Cal providers that can authorize non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT) via a Physician Certification Statement (PCS) form has expanded to include the following provider types:

- Physician assistants (PAs)
- Nurse practitioners (NPs)
- Certified nurse midwives (CNMs)
- Physical therapists
- Speech therapists
- Occupational therapists
- Mental health or substance use disorder providers

NEMT necessary to obtain medical services is covered subject to the written authorization of a licensed practitioner consistent with their scope of practice. Additionally, if the non-physician medical practitioner is under the supervision of a physician, then the ability to authorize NEMT also must have been delegated by the supervising physician through a standard written agreement.

PAs, NPs and CNMs may sign authorization forms required by the department for covered benefits and services that are consistent with applicable state and federal law and are subject to the supervising physician and PA/NP/CNM being enrolled as Medi-Cal providers pursuant to Article 1.3 (commencing with Section 14043) of Chapter 7 Part 3 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code (W&I Code).

PAs, NPs or CNMs may not sign authorization forms for the following covered benefits and services due to restrictions in Title 42 of Code of Federal Regulations Section 440.70 for home health services, Section 418.00 for hospice care or any other federal restriction for Medicaid. Restrictions include the following benefits and services:

- For hospice care, a physician's authorization is required for patient certification (at the beginning of the first 90-day period) and recertification (at the beginning of each subsequent period of care) of terminal illness.
- For home health services, a physician's authorization is required for durable medical equipment, medical supplies, enteral nutrition, and other medical services

THIS UPDATE APPLIES TO

**CALIFORNIA** PROVIDERS:

- Physicians
- Participating Physician Groups
- Hospitals
- Ancillary Providers

LINES OF BUSINESS:

- HMO/POS/HSP
- PPO
- EPO
- Medicare Advantage (HMO)
- Medi-Cal
  - Kern
    - Molina
  - Los Angeles
  - Riverside
  - Sacramento
  - San Bernardino
  - San Diego
  - San Joaquin
  - Stanislaus
  - Tulare

PROVIDER SERVICES

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provided through home health agencies, such as physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech pathology, and audiology services.

## **PHYSICIAN CERTIFICATION STATEMENT**

The attached PCS form replaces the form previously distributed by Health Net Community Solutions, Inc. (Health Net) via provider update 18-003, *Physician Certification Statement for Non-Emergency Medical Transportation for Medi-Cal Members (FFS and Shared Risk)*.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Relevant sections of Health Net's provider operations manuals have been revised to reflect the information contained in this update as applicable. Provider operations manuals are available electronically in the Provider Library, located on Health Net's provider website at [provider.healthnet.com](http://provider.healthnet.com).

Providers are encouraged to access the provider portal online at [provider.healthnet.com](http://provider.healthnet.com) for real-time information, including eligibility verification, claims status, prior authorization status, plan summaries, and more.

If you have questions regarding the information contained in this update, contact the Health Net Medi-Cal Provider Services Center within 60 days at 1-800-675-6110.