

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.

THIS UPDATE APPLIES TO
MEDI-CAL PROVIDERS:

- Physicians
- Participating Physician Groups
- Hospitals
- Ancillary Providers

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- For home health services, a physician's authorization is required for durable medical equipment, medical supplies, enteral nutrition, and other medical services 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), on behalf of CalViva Health, via provider update 18-004, *Physician Certification Statement for Non-Emergency Medical Transportation for Medi-Cal Members (FFS and Shared Risk)*.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Relevant sections of 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 provider website at provider.healthnet.com.

Providers are encouraged to access the provider portal online at 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 program information contained in this update, contact CalViva Health at 1-888-893-1569.