

## Cognitive Services-LTSS

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<b>Approved By:</b>	Highmark Health Options – Market Leadership
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### Disclaimer

Highmark Health Options medical policy is intended to serve only as a general reference resource regarding coverage for the services described. This policy does not constitute medical advice and is not intended to govern or otherwise influence medical decisions.

### POLICY STATEMENT

Highmark Health Options may provide coverage under medical surgical benefits of the Company's Medicaid products for medically necessary cognitive services.

This policy is designed to address medical necessity guidelines that are appropriate for the majority of individuals with a particular disease, illness or condition. Each person's unique clinical circumstances warrant individual consideration, based upon review of applicable medical records.

The qualifications of the policy will meet the standards of the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) and the Delaware Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) and all applicable state and federal regulations.

### DEFINITIONS

**Highmark Health Options (HHO)** – Managed care organization serving vulnerable populations that have complex needs and qualify for Medicaid. Highmark Health Options members include individuals and families with low income, expecting mothers, children, and people with disabilities. Members pay nothing to very little for their health coverage. Highmark Health Options currently services Delaware Medicaid: Delaware Healthy Children Program (DHCP) and Diamond State Health Plan Plus members.

**Cognitive Assessment** – This includes a detailed history and patient exam. There must be an independent historian for assessments and corresponding care plans. An independent historian can be a parent, spouse, guardian, or other individual who provides patient history when a patient isn't able to provide complete or reliable medical history.

### PROCEDURE

A prior authorization is required.

Cognitive services are necessary for the assessment and treatment of individuals who exhibit cognitive deficits or interpersonal conflict, such as those that are exhibited as a result of a brain injury.

Cognitive services include two key components:

- Multidisciplinary assessment and consultation to determine the member's level of functioning and service needs. This cognitive services component includes neuropsychological consultation and assessments, functional assessment and the development and implementation of a structured behavioral intervention plan; and
- Behavioral therapies include remediation, programming, counseling and therapeutic services for members and their families which have the goal of decreasing or modifying the member's significant maladaptive behaviors or cognitive disorders that are not covered under the Medicaid State Plan. These services consist of the following elements: individual and group therapy with physicians or psychologists (or other mental health professionals to the extent authorized under State law), services of social workers, trained psychiatric nurses, and other staff trained to work with individuals with psychiatric illness, individual activity therapies that are not primarily recreational or diversionary, family counseling (the primary purpose of which treatment of the member's condition) and diagnostic services.

### **Cognitive Assessments**

The cognitive assessment includes a detailed history and patient exam. There must be an independent historian for assessments and corresponding care plans provided. An independent historian can be a parent, spouse, guardian, or other individual who provides patient history when a patient isn't able to provide complete or reliable medical history.

Typically, you would spend 50 minutes face-to-face with the patient and independent historian to perform the following elements during the cognitive assessment:

- Examine the patient with a focus on assessing cognition
- Record and review the patient's history, reports, and records
- Conduct a functional assessment of Basic and Instrumental Activities of Daily Living, including decision-making capacity
- Use standardized instruments for staging of dementia like the Functional Assessment Staging Test (FAST) and Clinical Dementia Rating (CDR)
- Reconcile and review for high-risk medications, if applicable
- Use standardized screening instruments to evaluate for neuropsychiatric and behavioral symptoms, including depression and anxiety
- Conduct a safety evaluation for home and motor vehicle operation
- Identify social supports including how much caregivers know and are willing to provide care
- Address Advance Care Planning and any palliative care needs

### **Written Care Plan Services from the Assessment**

- Neuropsychiatric symptoms
- Neurocognitive symptoms
- Functional limitations

### **Eligible Providers**

Any credentialed provider able to report via the approved codes below can offer these services.

**Cognitive Assessment Locations**

Assessments can be performed at any of these locations:

- Office or outpatient setting
- Private residence
- Care facility
- Rest home
- Via telehealth

**LIMITATIONS**

Not available to persons residing in assisted living and nursing facilities.

Limited to 20 visits per year plus an assessment.

**PROCEDURE CODES**

Code	Description	Assessment or Therapy
<b>96125</b>	Standardized cognitive performance testing (e.g., Ross Information Processing Assessment) Per hour of a qualified health care professional's time, both face-to-face time administering tests to the patient and time interpreting these test results, and preparing the report.	Therapy
<b>96130</b>	Psychological testing evaluation services by physician or other qualified health care professional, including integration of patient data, interpretation of standardized test results and clinical data, clinical decision making, treatment planning and report, and interactive feedback to the patient, family member(s) or caregiver(s), when performed; first hour.	Therapy
<b>96131</b>	Psychological testing evaluation services by physician or other qualified health care professional, including integration of patient data, interpretation of standardized test results and clinical data, clinical decision making, treatment planning and report, and interactive feedback to the patient, family member(s) or caregiver(s), when performed; each additional hour (list separately in addition to code for primary procedure).	Therapy
<b>96132</b>	Neuropsychological testing evaluation services by physician or other qualified health care professional, including integration of patient data, interpretation of standardized test results and clinical data, clinical decision making, treatment planning and report, and interactive feedback to the patient, family member(s) or caregiver(s), when performed; first hour.	Therapy
<b>96133</b>	Neuropsychological testing evaluation services by physician or other qualified health care professional, including integration of patient data, interpretation of standardized test results and clinical data, clinical decision making, treatment planning and report, and interactive feedback to the patient, family member(s) or	Therapy

	caregiver(s), when performed; each additional hour (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure).	
<b>96136</b>	Psychological or neuropsychological test administration and scoring by physician or other qualified health care professional, two or more tests, any method; first 30 minutes.	Therapy
<b>96137</b>	Psychological or neuropsychological test administration and scoring by physician or other qualified health care professional, two or more tests, any method; each additional 30 minutes (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure).	Therapy
<b>96138</b>	Psychological or neuropsychological test administration and scoring by technician, two or more tests, any method; first 30 minutes.	Therapy
<b>96139</b>	Psychological or neuropsychological test administration and scoring by technician, two or more tests, any method; each additional 30 minutes (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure).	Therapy
<b>96146</b>	Psychological or neuropsychological test administration, with single automated, standardized instrument via electronic platform, with automated result only.	Therapy
<b>97129</b>	Therapeutic interventions that focus on cognitive function (e.g., attention, memory, reasoning, executive function, problem solving, and/or pragmatic functioning), and compensatory strategies to manage the performance of an activity (e.g., managing time or schedules, initiating, organizing, and sequencing tasks), direct (one-on-one) patient contact; initial 15 minutes.	Therapy
<b>97130</b>	Therapeutic interventions that focus on cognitive function (e.g., attention, memory, reasoning, executive function, problem solving, and/or pragmatic functioning), and compensatory strategies to manage the performance of an activity (e.g., managing time or schedules, initiating, organizing, and sequencing tasks), direct (one-on-one) patient contact; each additional 15 minutes (list separately in addition to code for primary procedure).	Therapy
<b>99483</b>	Assessment of and care planning for a patient with cognitive impairment, requiring an independent historian, in the office or other outpatient, home or domiciliary or rest home, with all of the following required elements: Cognition-focused evaluation.	Assessment

**Eligible Diagnosis Codes**

F01.50	F01.A0	F01.A11	F01.A18	F01.A2	F01.A3	F01.A4
F01.B0	F01.B11	F01.B18	F01.B2	F01.B3	F01.B4	F01.C0
F01.C11	F01.C18	F01.C2	F01.C3	F01.C4	F02.80	F04.A0
F02.A11	F02.A18	F02.A2	F02.A3	F02.A4	F02.B0	
	F02.B11					

F02.B18	F02.B2	F02.B3	F02.B4	F02.C0	F02.C11	
	F02.C18					
F02.C2	F02.C3	F02.C4	F06.70	F06.71	F10.27	F10.97
F13.27	F13.288	F13.97	F18.17	F18.188	F18.27	
	F18.288					
F18.97	F18.988	F19.17	F19.188	F19.27	F19.288	F19.97
F19.988	G10	G30.0	G30.01	G30.8	G31.01	G31.09
G31.2	G31.83	G31.84	G31.85	I69.010	I69.011	I69.014
I69.015	I69.210	I69.211	I69.214	I69.215	I69.310	I69.311
I69.314	I69.315	I69.810	I69.811	I69.814	I69.815	R41.81

**References**

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. 2022. Cognitive Assessment & Care Plan Services. Retrieved from <https://www.cms.gov/cognitive>

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. 2023. Billing and Coding: Cognitive Assessment & Care Plan Services. Retrieved from <https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/view/article.aspx?articleid=59036&ver=10>