

ISSUE DATE February 17, 2023	EFFECTIVE DATE January 1, 2023	NUMBER 05-23-02, 16-23-01
SUBJECT Coverage of Case Specific Training/Shadow Nursing for Private Duty/Shift Nursing Services for MA Beneficiaries Under 21 Years of Age		BY  Sally A. Kozak, Deputy Secretary Office of Medical Assistance Programs

IMPORTANT REMINDER: All providers must revalidate the Medical Assistance (MA) enrollment of each service location every 5 years. Providers should log into PROMISE to check the revalidation dates of each service location and submit revalidation applications at least 60 days prior to the revalidation dates. Enrollment (revalidation) applications may be found at: <https://www.dhs.pa.gov/providers/Providers/Pages/PROMISE-Enrollment.aspx>.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this bulletin is to advise providers that the Department of Human Services (Department) will begin covering shadow nursing for private duty/shift nursing services provided to Medical Assistance (MA) beneficiaries under 21 years of age, effective with dates of service on and after January 1, 2023.

SCOPE:

This bulletin applies to all MA enrolled providers that order and bill for private duty/shift nursing services to MA beneficiaries. Providers that render services to MA beneficiaries in the managed care delivery system should contact the appropriate managed care organization with any billing and payment questions.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:

Section 9817 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) (Pub. L. 117-2) provides a temporary 10 percent increase to the federal medical assistance percentage for certain Medicaid expenditures for home and community-based services (HCBS). The funding must be used to enhance, expand, or strengthen HCBS. States submitted Spending Plans to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services describing how they would use the funding available under the ARP. The Department included in its HCBS Spending Plan a proposal to pay for shadow nursing, whereby a nurse works alongside another nurse or supervising nurse

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS BULLETIN SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

Fee-for-service provider service center: 1-800-537-8862

Visit the Office of Medical Assistance Programs website at:

<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/providers/Providers/Pages/Health%20Care%20for%20Providers/Contact-Information-for-Providers.aspx>.

assigned to a private duty/shift nursing case for the purpose of receiving case-specific training, guidance, and instruction.

Training nursing staff on a MA beneficiary's home care case is necessary to facilitate continuity of care, including when a new nurse comes to the case or there is a call off, so that agency nursing staff are trained in the care of the specific needs of patients receiving shift nursing care, including feeding methods and schedules. Children receiving shift nursing services receive care that includes ventilator use, trach care/airway management, medication administration, and other care as required for a specific patient in the plan of care. Currently, home health agencies cannot bill for a second or shadow nurse. By making payments for a nurse to shadow an assigned nurse while the nurse is trained on the care of the patient, the Department hopes to improve retention and continuity of care.

Payment for shadow nursing is limited to nurses learning the specifics and intricacies of a particular case. The service is not to be used for practicum training, onboarding of a new hire, or orientation.

PROCEDURE:

Effective January 1, 2023, shadow nursing services are available for MA beneficiaries under 21 years of age who are receiving authorized private duty/shift nursing services. Shadow nursing services cannot be billed unless there are private duty/shift nursing services rendered at the same time.

In the fee-for-service delivery system, the Department pays providers according to the MA Program Fee Schedule. Providers may view the MA Program Outpatient Fee Schedule on the Department's website at the following link:

<https://www.humanservices.state.pa.us/outpatientfeeschedule>.

Shadow nursing services must be done in one-hour increments, where one unit equals one hour, as follows:

Procedure Code	Code Description	Limit	MA Fee
S5116	Home care training, nonfamily; per session	34 hours per 90 days	\$50 per hour

Private duty/shift nursing services and shadow nursing services are to be billed on the same claim by individual date of service. Span-date billing should not be utilized when billing for both services because shadow nursing claim lines will deny due to dates not aligning; however, span-date billing can be used for any prior authorized private duty/shift nursing service dates of service where shadow nursing services do not occur.

Providers should refer to this bulletin, as well as the PROMISe™ Provider Handbook and Billing Guides that can be found on the Department's website at:

https://www.dhs.pa.gov/providers/PROMISe_Guides/Pages/PROMISe-Handbooks.aspx.