

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

State Nebraska

LIMITATIONS - HOME HEALTH SERVICES – PHYSICAL THERAPY, OCCUPATIONAL
THERAPY, AND SPEECH PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY

To be eligible for home health services, the attending physician shall certify that the client cannot receive the services in an outpatient/physician office setting.

Services for Individuals Age 21 and Older: Medicaid covers occupational therapy, physical therapy, and speech, hearing, and language therapy services for individuals age 21 and older as a Home Health Agency service only when the following criteria is met. The services must:

1. Be prescribed by a physician;
2. Be performed by, or under the direct supervision of, a licensed physical therapist; and
3. Meet one of the following criteria:
 - a. The services must be restorative when there is a medically appropriate expectation that the patient's condition will improve significantly in a reasonable period of time;
 - b. The services must be reasonable and medically necessary for the treatment of the client's illness or injury;

These therapies for adults (age 21 and older) are a Home Health Agency Service only when there is no other method for the client to receive the service. Services must be prior authorized by Central Office staff. Substantiating documentation must be attached to the claim.

Services for Individuals Age 20 and Younger: Medicaid covers occupational therapy, physical therapy, and speech, hearing, and language therapy services for individuals birth to age 20 as a Home Health Agency service when the following criteria is met. The services must:

1. Be prescribed by a physician;
2. Be performed by, or under the direct supervision of, a licensed physical therapist; and
3. Meet one of the following criteria:
 - a. The services must be reasonable and medically necessary for the treatment of the client's illness or injury;

Telehealth: Home health physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech pathology and audiology services are covered when provided via telehealth technologies subject to the limitations as set forth in state regulations, as amended. Services requiring "hands on" professional services are excluded.