



Medica Central Coverage Policy

Policy Name:	Nutritional Counseling MP9661
Effective Date:	05/01/2024

Important Information – Please Read Before Using This Policy

These services may or may not be covered by Medica Central. Coverage is subject to requirements in applicable federal or state laws. Please refer to the member's plan document for other specific coverage information. If there is a difference between this general information and the member's plan document, the member's plan document will be used to determine coverage. With respect to Medicare, Medicaid, and other government programs, this policy will apply unless these programs require different coverage. Members may contact Medical Central Customer Service at the phone number listed on their member identification card to discuss their benefits more specifically. Providers with questions about this medical policy see Provider Communications for additional information.

<https://mo-central.medica.com/Providers>

Medica Central medical policies are not medical advice. Members should consult with appropriate health care providers to obtain needed medical advice, care, and treatment.

Coverage Policy

Nutritional consultations are generally **COVERED** subject to the following:

1. Nutritional counseling must be directed by a physician; and,
2. Services must be provided with a registered dietitian.

Educational classes, programs or seminars are excluded and therefore **NOT COVERED**. Examples of services that are not covered include, but are not limited to, program fees related to participation in weight loss or cholesterol reduction programs or classes.

Note: This policy is not scheduled for routine review of the scientific literature.

Description

Registered dietitians provide dietary assessments and counseling services to individuals whose diagnoses require guidance to effectively manage an illness or disability, e.g., obesity, diabetes mellitus, gastro-intestinal disorders, hypertension, kidney disease, and/or eating disorders.

Prior Authorization

Prior authorization is not required. However, services with specific coverage criteria may be reviewed retrospectively to determine if criteria are being met. Retrospective denial may result if criteria are not met.

Coding Considerations

Use the current applicable CPT/HCPCS code(s). The following codes are included below for informational purposes only, and are subject to change without notice. Inclusion or exclusion of a code does not constitute or imply member coverage or provider reimbursement.

CPT Codes:

- **97802** - Medical nutrition therapy; initial assessment and intervention, individual, face-to-face with the patient, each 15 minutes



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- **97803** - Medical nutrition therapy; re-assessment and intervention, individual, face-to-face with the patient, each 15 minutes
- **97804** - Medical nutrition therapy; initial assessment and intervention, group (two or more individuals), each 30 minutes
- **98960** - Education and training for patient self-management by a qualified, non-physician health care professional using a standardized curriculum, face-to-face with the patient (could include caregiver/family) each 30 minutes; individual patient
- **98961** - Education and training for patient self-management by a qualified, nonphysician health care professional using a standardized curriculum, face-to-face with the patient (could include caregiver/family) each 30 minutes; 2-4 patients
- **98962** - Education and training for patient self-management by a qualified, nonphysician health care professional using a standardized curriculum, face-to-face with the patient (could include caregiver/family) each 30 minutes; 5-8 patients
- **99078** - Physician or other qualified health care professional qualified by education, training, licensure/regulation (when applicable) educational services rendered to patients in a group setting (eg, prenatal, obesity, or diabetic instructions)

HCPC Codes:

- **G0108** - Diabetes outpatient self-management training services, individual, per 30 minutes
- **G0109** - Diabetes outpatient self-management training services, group session (2 or more), per 30 minutes
- **G0270** - Medical nutrition therapy; reassessment and subsequent intervention(s) following second referral in same year for change in diagnosis, medical condition or treatment regimen (including additional hours needed for renal disease), individual, face-to-face
- **G0271** - Medical nutrition therapy, reassessment and subsequent intervention(s) following second referral in same year for change in diagnosis, medical condition, or treatment regimen (including additional hours needed for renal disease), group (2 or more individuals), each 30 minutes
- **G0447** – (Physician) - Face-to-face behavioral counseling for obesity, 15 minutes
- **S9470** – (Dietician) - Nutritional counseling, dietitian visit

Original Effective Date: Created 08/16/2023

Re-Review Date(s): 04/17/2024

Administrative Update: 04/17/2024 -title change
07/10/2024 - Coding

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