

9505.0350 PODIATRY SERVICES.

Subpart 1. **Definitions.** The following terms used in this part shall have the meanings given them.

A. "Foot hygiene" means the care of the foot to maintain a clean condition.

B. "Podiatry service" means a service provided by a podiatrist within the scope of practice defined in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 153.

Subp. 2. **Payment for debridement or reduction of nails, corns, and calluses.** Debridement or reduction of pathological toenails and of infected or eczematized corns or calluses shall be a covered service. The service shall be eligible for payment once every 60 days.

Subp. 3. **Limitation on payment for debridement or reduction of nails, corns, and calluses.** Payment for debridement or reduction of nonpathological toenails and of noninfected or noneczematized corns or calluses is limited to the conditions in items A to C.

A. The recipient has a diagnosis of diabetes mellitus, arteriosclerosis obliterans, Buerger's disease (thromboangitis obliterans), chronic thrombophlebitis, or peripheral neuropathies involving the feet. The service is eligible for payment only once every 60 days unless the service is required more often to treat ulcerations or abscesses complicated by diabetes or vascular insufficiency. Payment for treatment of ulcerations or abscesses complicated by diabetes or vascular insufficiency is limited to services that are medically necessary.

B. The recipient who is not a resident of a long-term care facility has a medical condition that physically prevents him or her from reducing the nail, corn, or callus. Examples of such a medical condition are blindness, arthritis, and malformed feet.

C. A podiatry visit charge must not be billed on the same date as the date of the service provided under item A or B.

Subp. 4. **Limitation on payment for podiatry service provided to a resident of a long-term care facility.** To be eligible for medical assistance payment, a podiatry service provided to a recipient who resides in a long-term care facility must result from a self-referral or a referral by a registered nurse or a licensed practical nurse who is employed by the facility or the recipient's family, guardian, or attending physician.

Subp. 5. **Payment limitation; more than one recipient on same day in same long-term care facility.** When a podiatry service is provided to more than one recipient who resides in the same long-term care facility by the same provider on the same day, payment for the provider's visit to the first recipient shall be according to part 9505.0445, item E, for the procedure code for the visit. The provider's visit on the same day to other

recipients within the same long-term care facility must be billed with the multiple visit code established by the department. This subpart shall not apply to a provider's visit to provide an emergency service on the same day within the same long-term care facility if the emergency service could not have been scheduled consecutively with another recipient visit. If the provider visits other recipients in the same facility on the same day after providing an emergency service, the provider's visits must be billed with the multiple visit code.

Subp. 6. **Excluded services.** The podiatry services in items A to I are not eligible for payment under the medical assistance program:

A. stock orthopedic shoes; "stock orthopedic shoes" means orthopedic shoes other than those built to a person's specifications as prescribed by a podiatrist;

B. surgical assistants;

C. local anesthetics that are billed as a separate procedure;

D. operating room facility charges;

E. foot hygiene;

F. use of skin creams to maintain skin tone;

G. service not covered under Medicare, or service denied by Medicare because it is not medically necessary;

H. debridement or reduction of the nails, corns, or calluses except as in subparts 2 to 4; and

I. if the recipient is a resident of a long-term care facility, general foot care that can be reasonably performed by nursing staff of long-term care facilities. An example of general foot care is the reduction of toenails, corns, or calluses of a recipient who is not diagnosed as having a medical condition listed in subpart 3.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 256B.04*

History: *12 SR 624*

Published Electronically: *August 12, 2008*