Subject: New Podiatry Benefits

Plan: Coordinated Care  
Bulletin Number: 12-009

Bulletin Date: December 19, 2012  
Effective Date: December 1, 2012

Podiatry services may include treatment related to underlying systemic conditions such as metabolic, neurologic or peripheral vascular disease; injury; ulcers; fractures; wounds; removal of foreign bodies; and infections.

Exclusions

- Acupuncture
- Chelation Therapy
- CT’s
- MRI’s
- Ultrasounds
- Physical Medicine/Physical Therapy
- Nerve Conduction Studies
- Hygienic and preventive maintenance care of the foot that is ordinarily within the realm of self care, that include: observation and cleansing of the feet; hydrotherapy; paraffin baths; foot massage; use of skin creams to maintain skin tone; reduction/removal of corns and calluses; trimming of dystrophic mycotic nails, removal of warts, and any services performed in the absence of localized illness, injury, or infection of the feet.
- Treatment of bunions, flat feet, fallen arches, hammertoes and chronic foot strain/pain
- Treatment of chronic foot/ankle/knee pain
- Foot/toe joint arthrodesis in absence of acute traumatic injury

Benefit Limitations

Physical Medicine/Physical Therapy cannot be performed in the podiatry office setting. However, these services should be referred to a participating freestanding Physical Medicine/Physical Therapy provider. Physical Medicine/Physical Therapy require prior authorizations.

MRI and CT scans cannot be performed in the podiatry office setting. However, these services should be referred to a participating freestanding imaging/diagnostic radiology centers. MRI and CT scans require prior authorizations.

Reimbursement-Limited to Provider Agreement

Billing Requirements-Submit completed CMS1500 claim form and or EDI submissions

If you have questions regarding this provider bulletin, please contact your Provider Representative at (561) 659-1002.

Please insert this bulletin into your Provider Handbook. The policies and procedures in this bulletin supersede any related policies and procedures within the handbook.