



PROVIDER POLICIES & PROCEDURES

HUMIDIFIED HIGH FLOW THERAPY SYSTEM FOR HOME USE (e.g., MYAIRVO™ 2)

The primary purpose of this document is to assist providers enrolled in the Connecticut Medical Assistance Program (CMAP) with the information needed to support a medical necessity determination for a humidified high flow therapy system for home use. By clarifying the information needed for prior authorization of services, HUSKY Health hopes to facilitate timely review of requests so that individuals obtain the medically necessary care they need as quickly as possible.

A humidified high flow therapy system delivers high flows of air/oxygen mixtures through a variety of interfaces up to 60 L/min. Oxygen delivered through high-flow nasal cannula (HFNC) has been successfully used in several settings. While designated level of care indications is not absolute, a monitored setting such as the intensive care unit, intermediate care floor, or emergency department is the current standard of care. There is currently a paucity of substantial evidence to support use of HFNC in a non-monitored or home-based setting.

CLINICAL GUIDELINE

Coverage guidelines for a humidified high flow therapy system for home use are made in accordance with the DSS definition of Medical Necessity. The following criteria are guidelines *only*. Coverage determinations are based on an assessment of the individual and their unique clinical needs. If the guidelines conflict with the definition of Medical Necessity, the definition of Medical Necessity shall prevail. The guidelines are as follows:

The use of a humidified high flow therapy system in a home setting is considered **investigational and therefore not medically necessary** for all indications as there is insufficient published, scientific evidence in the peer-reviewed medical literature supporting its clinical efficacy and safety.

NOTE: EPSDT Special Provision

Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) is a federal Medicaid requirement that requires the Connecticut Medical Assistance Program (CMAP) to cover services, products, or procedures for Medicaid enrollees under 21 years of age where the service or good is medically necessary health care to correct or ameliorate a defect, physical or mental illness, or a condition identified through a screening examination. The applicable definition of medical necessity is set forth in Conn. Gen. Stat. Section 17b-259b (2011) [ref. CMAP Provider Bulletin PB 2011-36].

PROCEDURE

Prior authorization for the home use of a humidified high flow therapy system is required. Requests for coverage are reviewed in accordance with procedures in place for reviewing requests for durable medical

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To determine if a service or procedure requires prior authorization, CMAP Providers may refer to the *Benefit and Authorization Grids* summaries on www.ct.gov/husky by clicking on "For Providers" followed by "Benefit Grids". For a definitive list of benefits and service limitations, CMAP Providers may access the CMAP provider fee schedules and regulations at www.ctdssmap.com.

equipment. Coverage determinations are based upon a review of requested and/or submitted case-specific information.

EFFECTIVE DATE

This policy for the prior authorization for home use a humidified high flow therapy system for individuals covered under the HUSKY Health Program is effective February 01, 2024.

LIMITATIONS

Not Applicable

CODES:

N/A

DEFINITIONS

1. **HUSKY A:** Connecticut children and their parents or a relative caregiver; and pregnant women may qualify for HUSKY A (also known as Medicaid). Income limits apply.
2. **HUSKY B:** Uninsured children under the age of 19 in higher income households may be eligible for HUSKY B (also known as the Children's Health Insurance Program) depending on their family income level. Family cost-sharing may apply.
3. **HUSKY C:** Connecticut residents who are age 65 or older or residents who are ages 18-64 and who are blind, or have another disability, may qualify for Medicaid coverage under HUSKY C (this includes Medicaid for Employees with Disabilities (MED-Connect), if working). Income and asset limits apply.
4. **HUSKY D:** Connecticut residents who are ages 19-64 without dependent children and who: (1) do not qualify for HUSKY A; (2) do not receive Medicare; and (3) are not pregnant, may qualify for HUSKY D (also known as Medicaid for the Lowest-Income populations).
5. **HUSKY Health Program:** The HUSKY A, HUSKY B, HUSKY C, HUSKY D and HUSKY Limited Benefit programs, collectively.
6. **HUSKY Limited Benefit Program or HUSKY, LBP:** Connecticut's implementation of limited health insurance coverage under Medicaid for individuals with tuberculosis or for family planning purposes and such coverage is substantially less than the full Medicaid coverage.
7. **Medically Necessary or Medical Necessity:** (as defined in Connecticut General Statutes § 17b-259b) Those health services required to prevent, identify, diagnose, treat, rehabilitate or ameliorate an individual's medical condition, including mental illness, or its effects, in order to attain or maintain the individual's achievable health and independent functioning provided such services are: (1) Consistent with generally-accepted standards of medical practice that are defined as standards that are based on (A) credible scientific evidence published in peer-reviewed medical literature that is generally recognized by the relevant medical community, (B) recommendations of a physician-specialty society, (C) the views of physicians practicing in relevant clinical areas, and (D) any other relevant factors; (2) clinically appropriate in terms of type, frequency, timing, site, extent and duration and considered effective for the individual's illness, injury or disease; (3) not primarily for the convenience of the individual, the individual's health care provider or other health care providers; (4) not more costly than an alternative service or sequence of services at least as likely to produce equivalent therapeutic or diagnostic results as to the diagnosis or treatment of the individual's illness, injury or disease; and (5) based on an assessment of the individual and his or her

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medical condition.

8. **Prior Authorization:** A process for approving covered services prior to the delivery of the service or initiation of the plan of care based on a determination by CHNCT as to whether the requested service is medically necessary.

REFERENCES

- Evaluating High Flow Humidification Therapy in Patients With Cystic Fibrosis. Available at: <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/study/NCT02129803?term=airvo&recrs=e&draw=4&rank=22>. Accessed on December 8, 2023.
- Fisher & Paykel (F & P). myAIRVO™ 2 Humidified High Flow Therapy System. Available at: <https://www.fphcare.com/us/homecare/home-respiratory/humidified-high-flow/myairvo-2/>. Accessed on December 8, 2023.
- Sleep and Daytime Use of Humidified Nasal High-flow Oxygen in COPD Outpatients. Available at: <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT03221387?term=airvo&recrs=e&draw=2&rank=5>. Accessed on December 8, 2023.
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- U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). 510 (K) Premarket Notification. AIRVO 2 Humidifier, MYAIRVO 2 Humidifier. 2013. Available at: <https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cdrh/cfdocs/cfpmn/pmn.cfm?ID=K131895>. Accessed on December 8, 2023.

PUBLICATION HISTORY

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