



PROVIDER POLICIES & PROCEDURES

HOME USE OF SUIT THERAPY DEVICES

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 home use of a suit therapy device. 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.

Suit therapy has been proposed as an alternative treatment for impairments associated with sensory integration disorders, cerebral palsy and other neuromuscular conditions and includes the Adeli suit (also known as the Polish Suit) and TheraTogs. The Adeli suit consists of a vest, shorts, knee pads, and specially adapted shoes with hooks and elastic cords which create an elastic frame around the body creating tension and purportedly developing muscles in the arms and legs. Similar to the Adeli Suit, TheraTogs is an orthotic undergarment that consists of a body suit and a strapping system designed to be customized, trimmed, and fitted to an individual wearer to address specific musculoskeletal, postural, balance or movement issues. Both devices are intended to decrease the degree of impairment while improving coordination.

CLINICAL GUIDELINE

Coverage guidelines for home use of a suit therapy device 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 suit therapy device (including but not limited to the Adeli Suit and TheraTogs) in a home setting is considered **investigational and therefore not medically necessary** for the treatment of any condition, including, but not limited to, cerebral palsy and other neuromuscular conditions, as there is insufficient evidence in peer-reviewed, published, medical literature supporting safety and clinical efficacy in the home setting.

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].

Please note that authorization is based on medical necessity at the time the authorization is issued and is not a guarantee of payment. Payment is based on the individual having active coverage, benefits and policies in effect at the time of service.

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.

PROCEDURE

Prior authorization for the home use of a suit therapy device is required. Requests for coverage are reviewed in accordance with procedures in place for reviewing requests for durable medical equipment. Coverage determinations are based upon a review of requested and/or submitted case-specific information.

The following information is needed to review requests for home use of a suit therapy device:

1. Fully completed authorization request via on-line web portal; and
2. Documentation from the requesting physician supporting medical necessity.

EFFECTIVE DATE

This policy for the prior authorization for home use of a suit therapy device for individuals covered under the HUSKY Health Program is effective May 1, 2022.

LIMITATIONS

Not Applicable

CODE:

Code	Description
N/A	There is no specific code for suit therapy devices

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. **HUSKY Plus Physical Program (or HUSKY Plus Program):** A supplemental physical health program pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 17b-294, for medically eligible members of HUSKY B in Income Bands 1 and 2, whose intensive physical health needs cannot be accommodated within the HUSKY Plan, Part B.

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8. **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 medical condition.
9. **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.

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PUBLICATION HISTORY

Status	Date	Action Taken
Original Publication	March 2022	Approved at the CHNCT Medical Reviewer meeting on January 12, 2022. Approved by the CHNCT Clinical Quality Subcommittee on March, 21 2022. Approved by DSS on March 24, 2022.

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