Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, HHS

§ 410.100

(iv) A Federally qualified health center (as defined in section 1861(aa)(4) of the Act).
(v) A hospital (as defined in section 1861(e) of the Act).
(vi) A hospital-based or critical access hospital-based renal dialysis center (including satellites).
(vii) A skilled nursing facility (as defined in section 1819(a) of the Act).
(viii) A community mental health center (as defined in section 1861(ff)(3)(B) of the Act).

(4) Originating sites must be located in either a rural health professional shortage area as defined under section 332(a)(1)(A) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254e(a)(1)(A)) or in a county that is not included in a Metropolitan Statistical Area as defined in section 1886(d)(2)(D) of the Act. Entities participating in a Federal telemedicine demonstration project that have been approved by, or receive funding from, the Secretary as of December 31, 2000 qualify as an eligible originating site regardless of geographic location.

(5) The medical examination of the patient is under the control of the physician or practitioner at the distant site.

(c) Telepresenter not required. A telepresenter is not required as a condition of payment unless a telepresenter is medically necessary as determined by the physician or practitioner at the distant site.

(d) Exception to the interactive telecommunications system requirement. For Federal telemedicine demonstration programs conducted in Alaska or Hawaii only, Medicare payment is permitted for telehealth when asynchronous store and forward technologies, in single or multimedia formats, are used as a substitute for an interactive telecommunications system.

(e) Limitations. (1) A clinical psychologist and a clinical social worker may bill and receive payment for individual psychotherapy via a telecommunications system, but may not seek payment for medical evaluation and management services.

(2) The physician visits required under § 483.40(c) of this title may not be furnished as telehealth services.

(f) Process for adding or deleting services. Changes to the list of Medicare telehealth services are made through the annual physician fee schedule rulemaking process.


Subpart C—Home Health Services Under SMI

§ 410.80 Applicable rules.

Home health services furnished under Medicare Part B are subject to the rules set forth in subpart E of part 409 of this chapter.

Subpart D—Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF) Services

§ 410.100 Included services.

Subject to the conditions and limitations set forth in §§ 410.102 and 410.105, CORF services means the following services furnished to an outpatient of the CORF by personnel that meet the qualifications set forth in § 485.70 of this chapter. Payment for CORF services are made in accordance with § 414.1105.

(a) Physician’s services. CORF facility physician services are administrative in nature and include consultation with and medical supervision of non-physician staff, participation in plan of treatment reviews and patient care review conferences, and other medical and facility administration activities. Diagnostic and therapeutic services furnished to an individual CORF patient by a physician in a CORF facility are not CORF physician services. These services, if covered, are physician services under § 410.20 with payment for these services made to the physician in accordance with part 414 subpart B.

(b) Physical therapy services. (1) These services include—

(1) Testing and measurement of the function or dysfunction of the neuromuscular, musculoskeletal, cardiovascular and respiratory systems; and.
(ii) Assessment and treatment related to dysfunction caused by illness or injury, and aimed at preventing or reducing disability or pain and restoring lost function.

(2) The establishment of a maintenance therapy program for an individual whose restoration potential has been reached is a physical therapy service; however, maintenance therapy itself is not covered as part of these services.

c) Occupational therapy services. These services include—

(1) Teaching of compensatory techniques to permit an individual with a physical impairment or limitation to engage in daily activities.

(2) Evaluation of an individual’s level of independent functioning.

(3) Selection and teaching of task-oriented therapeutic activities to restore sensory-integrative function; and

(4) Assessment of an individual’s vocational potential, except when the assessment is related solely to vocational rehabilitation.

d) Speech-language pathology services. These are services for the diagnosis and treatment of speech and language disorders that create difficulties in communication.

e) Respiratory therapy services. (1) Respiratory therapy services are for the assessment, treatment, and monitoring of patients with deficiencies or abnormalities of cardiopulmonary function.

(2) Respiratory therapy services include the following:

(i) Application of techniques for support of oxygenation and ventilation of the patient.

(ii) Therapeutic use and monitoring of gases, mists, and aerosols and related equipment.

(iii) Bronchial hygiene therapy.

(iv) Pulmonary rehabilitation techniques to develop strength and endurance of respiratory muscles and other techniques to increase respiratory function, such as graded activity services; these services include physiologic monitoring and patient education.

g) Orthotic device services. These services include—

(1) Orthopedic devices that support or align movable parts of the body, prevent or correct deformities, or improve functioning; and

(2) Services necessary to design the device, select materials and components, measure, fit, and align the device, and instruct the patient in its use.

(h) Social and psychological services. Social and psychological services include the assessment and treatment of an individual’s mental and emotional functioning and the response to and rate of progress as it relates to the individual’s rehabilitation plan of treatment, including physical therapy services, occupational therapy services, speech-language pathology services and respiratory therapy services.

(i) Nursing care services. Nursing care services include nursing services provided by a registered nurse that are prescribed by a physician and are specified in or directly related to the rehabilitation treatment plan and necessary for the attainment of the rehabilitation goals of the physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech-language pathology, or respiratory therapy plan of treatment.

(j) Drugs and biologicals. These are drugs and biologicals that are the following:

(1) Prescribed by a physician and administered by or under the supervision of a physician or by a registered professional nurse; and

(2) Not excluded from Medicare Part B payment for reasons specified in §410.29.

(k) Supplies and durable medical equipment. Supplies and durable medical equipment include the following:

(1) Disposable supplies.
(2) Durable medical equipment of the type specified in §410.38 (except for renal dialysis systems) for a patient’s use outside the CORF, whether purchased or rented.

(a) Home environment evaluation. A home environment evaluation—
(1) Is a single home visit to evaluate the potential impact of the home situation on the patient’s rehabilitation goals.
(2) Requires the presence of the patient and the physical therapist, occupational therapist, or speech-language pathologist, as appropriate.

§410.102 Excluded services.
None of the services specified in §410.100 is covered as a CORF service if the service—
(a) Would not be covered as an inpatient hospital service if furnished to a hospital inpatient;
(b) Is not reasonable and necessary for the diagnosis or treatment of illness or injury or to improve the functioning of a malformed body member. An example would be services furnished as part of a maintenance program involving repetitive activities that do not require the skilled services of nurses or therapists.

§410.105 Requirements for coverage of CORF services.
Services specified in §410.100 and not excluded under §410.102 are covered as CORF services if they are furnished by a participating CORF (that is, a CORF that meets the conditions of subpart B of part 485 of this chapter, and has in effect a provider agreement under part 489 of this chapter) and if the following requirements are met:
(a) Referral and medical history. The services must be furnished to an individual who is referred by a physician who certifies that the individual needs skilled rehabilitation services, and makes the following information available to the CORF before or at the time treatment is begun:
(1) The individual’s significant medical history.
(2) Current medical findings.
(3) Diagnosis(es) and contraindications to any treatment modality.

(4) Rehabilitation goals, if determined.
(b) When and where services are furnished. (1) All services must be furnished while the individual is under the care of a physician.
(2) Except as provided in paragraph (b)(3) of this section, the services must be furnished on the premises of the CORF.
(3) Exceptions. (i) Physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech-language pathology services may be furnished away from the premises of the CORF including the individual’s home when payment is not otherwise made under Title XVIII of the Act.
(ii) The single home environment evaluation visit specified in §410.100(m) is also covered.
(c) Plan of treatment. (1) The service must be furnished under a written plan of treatment that—
(i) Is established and signed by a physician before treatment is begun; and
(ii) Prescribes the type, amount, frequency, and duration of the services to be furnished, and indicates the diagnosis and anticipated rehabilitation goals that are consistent with the patient function reporting on the claims for services.
(2) The plan must be reviewed at least every 60 days for respiratory therapy services and every 90 days for physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech-language pathology services by a facility physician or the referring physician who, when appropriate, consults with the professional personnel providing the services.
(3) The reviewing physician must certify or recertify that the plan is being followed, the patient is making progress in attaining the rehabilitation goals, and the treatment is having no harmful effects on the patient.
(d) Claims submitted for physical therapy, occupational therapy or speech-language-pathology services, contain prescribed information on patient functional limitations.