



STATE OF WASHINGTON
HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY

626 8th Avenue, SE • P.O. Box 45502 • Olympia, Washington 98504-5502

November 14, 2018

Dear Stakeholder:

SUBJECT: Upcoming Changes to Home Health and Medical Equipment Prescriptions

Effective January 1, 2019, only physicians will be authorized to order home health services and medical equipment.

We are writing to make you aware of an upcoming change regarding prescriptions for home health services and medical equipment. The Health Care Authority (HCA) is amending its rules for home health services (Chapter 182-551 WAC, Subchapter II) and medical equipment (Chapter 182-543 WAC) to align with [federal regulations published by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid services \(CMS\) on February 2, 2016](#).

Advanced nurse practitioners (ARNPs) or physician assistants (PAs) ordering home health services or medical equipment must have a physician's signature on their requested order. Physicians reviewing ARNP records for medical necessity and signing orders may bill a consultation code for those services. HCA will update the Physician-Related Services Billing Guide to include this code as of January 1, 2019.

Providers treating client in Apple Health Managed Care plans should consult individual plan billing requirements for these services.

If you have questions regarding the home health rules, please contact Nancy Hite, Occupational Nurse Consultant, at nancy.hite@hca.wa.gov or by telephone (360) 725-1611. For questions regarding medical equipment, please contact Erin Mayo, Medical Assistance Program Specialist, at erin.mayo@hca.wa.gov or by telephone (360) 725-1729.

Sincerely,

MaryAnne Lindeblad, BSN, MPH
Medicaid Director

By email

Enclosure(s)

cc: Josiah Morse, HTA Program Manager, CQCT, HCA
Nancy Hite, Occupational Nurse Consultant, CQCT, HCA
Erin Mayo, Medical Assistance Program Specialist, CQCT, HCA