ITEM 13. OTHER DIAGNOSTIC, SCREENING, PREVENTIVE AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES, I.E., OTHER THAN THOSE PROVIDED ELSEWHERE IN THE PLAN. (Continued)

13-C Preventive Services (continued)

11. Medical Nutrition Therapy Services

Medical nutrition therapy services are recommended by a physician or other licensed practitioner of the healing arts within the scope of their practice under State law to -

- 1) Prevent disease, disability, and other health conditions or their progression;
- 2) Prolong life; and
- 3) Promote physical and mental health and efficiency.

Medical nutrition therapy services are covered when provided by a registered dietitian working within their scope of practice. Coverage is limited to <u>services that are medically necessary</u>. <u>Medical necessity is determined by the Medicaid program</u>, one initial assessment for each condition and up to five hours for follow up therapy in a calendar year. Additional services may be authorized if determined to be medically necessary.

Registered dietitians are certified by the Vermont Office of Professional Regulation. To be eligible for certification an individual must be a registered dietitian by the Commission on Dietetic registration, or shall have: received a bachelor of arts or science or higher degree in dietetics from an accredited university; and satisfactorily completed a minimum of 900 practicum hours of supervision under an Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics dietitian registered by the Commission on Dietetic Registration; and passed an examination to the satisfaction of the Director of the Office of Professional Regulation.