

State of Vermont Agency of Human Services 280 State Drive, Center Building Waterbury, VT 05671-1000

Global Commitment Register

November 18, 2024

GCR 24-060 PROPOSED

<u>Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, and Speech/Language</u> <u>Therapy Changes</u>

Policy Summary:

The Vermont Medicaid program proposes to make changes to physical therapy (PT), occupational therapy (OT), and speech/language therapy (ST) services. Prior authorization requirements will not apply to Medicaid members under age 21, and combined limits on visits for Medicaid members aged 21 and older will increase from 30 to 60 visits per calendar year.

Previously, prior authorization was required for medically necessary services beyond 30 combined visits per calendar year. This change is being made to ensure continued access to therapy services without prior authorization. The change from 30 to 60 combined limits will align with other Vermont insurers.

This change will be submitted to the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services as State Plan Amendment 25-0001 and updated in the Alternative Benefit Plan (ABP) for the New Adult Group through SPA 25-0003. The ABP replicates the full Medicaid State Plan and includes the 10 essential health benefits required under the Affordable Care Act, as well as the full range of Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) services for individuals under the age of 21.

Effective Date: January 1, 2025

Authority/Legal Basis: Medicaid State Plan

Population Affected: All Medicaid

Fiscal Impact: This change is expected to be budget neutral.

Public Comment Period:

November 18, 2024 – December 18, 2024



Send comments to: Medicaid Policy Unit 280 State Drive, Center Building Waterbury, VT 05671-1000

Or submit via e-mail to <u>AHS.MedicaidPolicy@vermont.gov</u>.

To be added to the GCR email list, send an email to <u>AHS.MedicaidPolicy@vermont.gov</u>.

Additional Information:

The draft SPA provides additional details on the proposed changes; copies of the draft SPA can be requested from local Department for Children and Families (DCF) offices or from DVHA at (802) 355-8843, or can be found on the <u>Agency of Human Services website</u>.

Vermont Medicaid Physical Therapy/Occupational Therapy/Speech Language Pathology Supplement

