CardinalCare
Virginia's Medicaid Program

Private Duty Nursing Fact Sheet

The Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) benefit allows the Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) to provide Private Duty Nursing to eligible children under the age of 21 when medically necessary to correct or ameliorate (to make better or more tolerable) diagnosed health conditions or prevent conditions from worsening (maintain). Private Duty Nursing is individualized, medically necessary nursing care services consisting of skilled interventions, assessment, monitoring and teaching of those who are or will be involved in nursing care for the individual to correct, ameliorate, or maintain the member's health condition. Private Duty Nursing does not include services used to specifically monitor medically controlled disorders or to provide only unskilled care. It can be based on the individual's home or any setting in which normal life activities take place.

The Private Duty Nursing benefit is defined in the Private Duty Nursing Services Chapter of the EPSDT Supplement (Chapter 3) available on the DMAS website at the following link: https://vamedicaid.dmas.virginia.gov/manuals/provider-manuals-library#gsc.tab=0

Who Is Eligible?

While the EPSDT benefit is available to all Medicaid-eligible children under the age of 21, those children requiring Private Duty Nursing must meet additional criteria to access these services. The services must:

- Be determined to be medically necessary to correct or ameliorate a condition by an appropriately licensed healthcare provider acting within the scope of their license.
- Be pre-approved by DMAS or its contractor (MCO) (prior to the service being rendered).
- Be limited to a specified amount, duration and/or frequency of services as determined by an appropriately licensed professional.

Process for Accessing Services

Families who believe their child may be eligible for Private Duty Nursing services should contact their local Medicaid office or Managed Care Organization for specific eligibility requirements and information on how to apply for these services. Health care providers can advocate for children who may benefit from Personal Care services by documenting their medical needs and submitting the necessary paperwork for authorization.

- The individual/family chooses between an Agency or Consumer Directed Services model.
- The Physician assesses the individual using the EPSDT Medical Needs Assessment Form **(DMAS-62)**
- The physician's office must send the Medical Nees Assessment (DMAS – 62) to a Private Duty Nursing Provider selected by the individual/family.
- The provider sends documents to Acentra Health for authorization of services and approval of reimbursement Medicaid FFS and the MCO for those in Managed Care.
- The nursing provider develops a plan of care using the CMS 485 and requests service authorization from Acentra Health.

DMAS

- individuals enrolled in an MCO will go through the MCO for a list of available providers and service authorization.

For more information contact the EPSDT mailbox: EPSDT@dmas.virginia.gov

EPSDT Provider Manual can be found at:
https://vamedicaid.dmas.virginia.gov/manuals/provider-manuals-library#gsc.tab=0

Provider information and forms can be found at: