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8. Private Duty Nursing Services

Medically necessary private duty nursing (PDN) services are provided under the direction of the recipient's physician in accordance with 42 CFR 440.80 and with prior approval by the Department for Medicaid Services, or its designee.

Recipients in personal care homes are not eligible for this service. In addition, recipients in hospitals, nursing facilities, intermediate care facilities for the intellectually disabled, rehabilitation centers, and other institutional settings are not eligible for this service. PDN services are not covered while an individual is being observed or treated in a hospital emergency room or similar environment.

This service is only approvable based on the need for PDN services in the patient's private residence. Services cannot be provided in a provider owned or operated setting. An individual with a medical condition that necessitates this service normally is unable to leave the home without being accompanied by a licensed nurse and leaving the home requires considerable and taxing effort. An individual may utilize the approved hours of coverage outside of his/her residence during those hours when the individual's normal life activities take the patient out of the home into the community. The need for nursing care to participate in activities outside of the home is not a basis for authorizing PDN services or expanding the hours needed for PDN services.

Medicaid will not reimburse for Personal Care Services, Skilled Nursing Visits, or Home Health Aide Services provided during the same hours of the day as PDN services.

Medicaid Payments for PDN are made only to agencies enrolled with the Department for Medicaid Services as providers for the service. An enrolled provider must be a State licensed home health or private duty nursing agency within Kentucky that is approved in its license to provide nursing services within the State. PDN services shall be rendered by a registered nurse (RN) or licensed practical nurse (LPN) who is licensed by the Kentucky Board of Nursing and employed by a licensed home care agency.

A member of the patient's immediate family (spouse, child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, or sibling, including corresponding step and in-law relationship) or a legally responsible person who maintains their primary residence with the recipient may not be employed by the provider agency to provide PDN services reimbursed by Medicaid.

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