


MEDICAL POLICY	Chiropractic Care (Medicare Only)	
Effective Date: 12/1/2020  12/1/2020	Section: MED	Policy No: 436
	Medical Policy Committee Approved Date: 9/2020	
Medical Officer	Date	

See Policy CPT/HCPCS CODE section below for any prior authorization requirements

SCOPE:

Providence Health Plan, Providence Health Assurance, Providence Plan Partners, and Ayn Health Solutions as applicable (referred to individually as “Company” and collectively as “Companies”).

APPLIES TO:

Medicare Only

MEDICARE POLICY CRITERIA

The following Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Service (CMS) guidelines should be utilized for medical necessity coverage determinations. Click the link provided in the table below to access applicable medical necessity criteria. All listed guidelines apply.

Service	Medicare Guidelines
<i>Chiropractic Care</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Coverage Article: Billing and Coding: Chiropractor Services (A57914)¹ Medicare Benefit Policy Manual: Chapter 15 – Covered Medical and Other Health Services (Rev. 259, 07-12-19)²

*Per the [Medicare Policy Manual](#) commercial medical policies may be applied to Medicare coverage determinations in the absence of an appropriate NCD, LCD, LCA, or CMS Coverage Manual. Therefore, the commercial medical policy, **Chiropractic Care (All Lines of Business Except Medicare)**, applies to the following services:*

- Non-medical, educational, or training treatments
- Digital radiographic mensuration
- Digital postural analysis
- Therapeutic (wobble chair)

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BILLING GUIDELINES

- CMS has developed policies which specifically limit coverage to manual manipulation of the spine to correct a subluxation. The codes that accurately reflect this service are the CPT Codes 98940, 98941, and 98942. Documentation must clearly reflect the medical necessity for the service billed.

CPT/HCPCS CODES

Medicare Only	
No Prior Authorization Required	
98940	Chiropractic manipulative treatment (CMT); spinal, 1-2 regions
98941	Chiropractic manipulative treatment (CMT); spinal, 3-4 regions
98942	Chiropractic manipulative treatment (CMT); spinal, 5 regions

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

Company Medical Policies serve as guidance for the administration of plan benefits. Medical policies do not constitute medical advice nor a guarantee of coverage. Company Medical Policies are reviewed annually and are based upon published, peer-reviewed scientific evidence and evidence-based clinical practice guidelines that are available as of the last policy update. The Companies reserve the right to determine the application of Medical Policies and make revisions to Medical Policies at any time. Providers will be given at least 60-days notice of policy changes that are restrictive in nature.

The scope and availability of all plan benefits are determined in accordance with the applicable coverage agreement. Any conflict or variance between the terms of the coverage agreement and Company Medical Policy will be resolved in favor of the coverage agreement.

REGULATORY STATUS

Mental Health Parity Statement

Coverage decisions are made on the basis of individualized determinations of medical necessity and the experimental or investigational character of the treatment in the individual case.

REFERENCES

1. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Local Coverage Article: Billing and Coding: Chiropractor Services (A57914). <https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/details/article-details.aspx?articleId=57914>. Published 2020. Accessed 7/16/2020.

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- 2. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Medicare Benefit Policy Manual: Chapter 15 – Covered Medical and Other Health Services (Rev. 259, 07-12-19). <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/downloads/bp102c15.pdf>. Published 2019. Accessed 7/16/2020.