

**Bulletin Number:** MSA 21-54

**Distribution:** Hospitals, Practitioners, Pharmacy Providers

**Issued:** December 29, 2021

**Subject:** Clarification of Dialysis Treatment for the Emergency Services Only (ESO) Program

**Effective:** April 1, 2022

**Programs Affected:** ESO

The purpose of this policy is to clarify Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Medicaid policy on the treatment of End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) services for Medicaid beneficiaries eligible for Medicaid ESO. Michigan Medicaid considers the manifestation of ESRD an emergency condition. The symptoms of ESRD include acute pain and a delay in treatment may result in death, or could reasonably be expected to:

- Place the person's health in serious jeopardy,
- Cause serious impairment to bodily functions, or
- Cause serious dysfunction of the kidneys or any other bodily organ or part.

Effective April 1, 2022, dialysis services appropriate for the treatment of the ESRD diagnosis are not restricted to the Emergency Department place of service. The ESO benefit does not include an organ transplant.

Claims for dialysis services for an ESO beneficiary must include an ESRD diagnosis and appropriate emergency service designation as follows:

- For Medicaid-enrolled professional nephrology services the professional claim form must include an ESRD diagnosis and the "Y" Emergency Indicator.
- Institutional claims follow billing guidelines to report services as an emergency.
- Pharmacy claims are limited to the ESRD diagnosis only. Practitioners must identify the appropriate ESRD diagnosis code on prescriptions and pharmacies should report both the diagnosis code and required level of service value of '3'.

Additional information on dialysis billing is available in the Hospital, Billing and Reimbursement for Institutional Providers and Practitioner chapters of the [MDHHS Medicaid Provider Manual](#). This policy clarification does not change ESO eligibility determination. Information on eligibility determination for ESO is found in the [Michigan Medicaid State Plan](#) and [Michigan Bridges Eligibility Manual \(BEM\)](#).

## Public Comment

The public comment portion of the policy promulgation process is being conducted concurrently with the implementation of the change noted in this bulletin. Any interested party wishing to comment on the change may do so by submitting comments to Mary Anne Sesti via e-mail at [SestiM@michigan.gov](mailto:SestiM@michigan.gov).

Please include "Clarification of Dialysis Treatment for the Emergency Services Only Program" in the subject line.

Comments received will be considered for revisions to the change implemented by this bulletin.

## Manual Maintenance

Retain this bulletin until the information is incorporated into the MDHHS Medicaid Provider Manual.

## Questions

Any questions regarding this bulletin should be directed to Provider Inquiry, Department of Health and Human Services, P.O. Box 30731, Lansing, Michigan 48909-8231, or e-mailed to [ProviderSupport@michigan.gov](mailto:ProviderSupport@michigan.gov). When you submit an e-mail, be sure to include your name, affiliation, NPI number, and phone number so you may be contacted if necessary. Typical Providers may phone toll-free 1-800-292-2550. Atypical Providers may phone toll-free 1-800-979-4662.

An electronic copy of this document is available at [www.michigan.gov/medicaidproviders](http://www.michigan.gov/medicaidproviders) >> Policy, Letters & Forms.

## Approved



Kate Massey, Director  
Health and Aging Services Administration