



Issue Date: October 30, 2017

Effective Date: June 2, 2017

17-003

Attention: General Public

Subject: Lactation Counseling Services

Purpose: To provide information that as of June 2, 2017 lactation services are available as a separately reimbursed pregnancy-related service. Lactation services include breastfeeding health education and counseling services provided by a certified lactation consultant under the Delaware Medical Assistance Program.

Scope:

Lactation counseling services are permitted when provided by a Physician, Nurse Practitioner (NP) Physician Assistant (PA), Midwife (MW) or Registered Nurse (RN) who is also certified as a Certified Lactation Consultant (CLC) or International Board Certified Lactation Consultant (IBCLC).

(1.) Comprehensive lactation counseling services must include:

- (a.) A face-to-face encounter with the mother and child lasting a minimum of thirty minutes,
- (b.) Comprehensive maternal, infant and feeding assessment related to lactation,
- (c.) Interventions including, but not limited to:
 - (i.) Observation of mother and child during breastfeeding,
 - (ii.) Instruction in positioning techniques and proper latching to the breast, and
 - (iii.) Counseling in nutritive suckling and swallowing, milk production and release, frequency of feedings and feeding cues, expression of milk and use of pump if indicated, assessment of infant nourishment and reasons to contact a health care provider.
- (d.) Information on community supports such as Women, Infant and Children (WIC) , and
- (e.) Evaluation of outcomes from interventions.

(2.) Limitations on Lactation Counseling Services

There is a limit of five counseling sessions per child, and each session can last up to ninety minutes. In accordance with Section 1905(r) of the Social Security Act this service limit may be exceeded based on medical necessity.



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