

Medication Therapy Management Services

Definition and Program Criteria

The following is the pharmacy profession's consensus definition of medication therapy management, approved by 11 national pharmacy organizations on July 27, 2004. The supporting organizations include the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists and the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy, American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, American College of Apothecaries, American College of Clinical Pharmacy, American Pharmacists Association, American Society of Consultant Pharmacists, National Association of Boards of Pharmacy, National Association of Chain Drug Stores, National Community Pharmacists Association, and the National Council of State Pharmacy Association Executives.

Medication Therapy Management is a distinct service or group of services that optimize therapeutic outcomes for individual patients. Medication Therapy Management Services are independent of, but can occur in conjunction with, the provision of a medication product.

Medication Therapy Management encompasses a broad range of professional activities and responsibilities within the licensed pharmacist's, or other qualified health care provider's, scope of practice. These services include but are not limited to the following, according to the individual needs of the patient:

- a. Performing or obtaining necessary assessments of the patient's health status;
- b. Formulating a medication treatment plan;
- c. Selecting, initiating, modifying, or administering medication therapy;
- d. Monitoring and evaluating the patient's response to therapy, including safety and effectiveness;
- e. Performing a comprehensive medication review to identify, resolve, and prevent medication-related problems, including adverse drug events;
- f. Documenting the care delivered and communicating essential information to the patient's other primary care providers;
- g. Providing verbal education and training designed to enhance patient understanding and appropriate use of his/her medications;
- h. Providing information, support services and resources designed to enhance patient adherence with his/her therapeutic regimens;
- i. Coordinating and integrating medication therapy management services within the broader health care-management services being provided to the patient.

A program that provides coverage for Medication Therapy Management services shall include:

- a. Patient-specific and individualized services or sets of services provided directly by a pharmacist to the patient^{*}. These services are distinct from formulary development and use, generalized patient education and information activities, and other population-focused quality assurance measures for medication use.
- b. Face-to-face interaction between the patient^{*} and the pharmacist as the preferred method of delivery. When patient-specific barriers to face-to-face communication exist, patients shall have equal access to appropriate alternative delivery methods. MTM programs shall include structures supporting the establishment and maintenance of the patient^{*}-pharmacist relationship.
- c. Opportunities for pharmacists and other qualified health care providers to identify patients who should receive medication therapy management services.
- d. Payment for Medication Therapy Management Services consistent with contemporary provider payment rates that are based on the time, clinical intensity, and resources required to provide services (e.g., Medicare Part A and/or Part B for CPT & RBRVS).
- e. Processes to improve continuity of care, outcomes, and outcome measures.

^{*} In some situations, Medication Therapy Management Services may be provided to the caregiver or other persons involved in the care of the patient.