

KMAP GENERAL BULLETIN 18189

UPDATED - Lactation Counseling

Effective with dates of service on or after October 1, 2018, lactation counseling services will be covered under code S9443 for nonphysician lactation consultants. A physician who provides lactation counseling services can bill under the appropriate office visit evaluation and management (E&M) code. The service includes a face-to-face visit of no less than 30 minutes that involves the following:

- A comprehensive feeding assessment related to lactation
- Interventions including positional techniques, proper latching, and counseling
- Community support information
- Evaluation of interventional outcomes

This service is only covered if it is a one-on-one session. Group sessions are not covered.

Lactation counseling services are primarily intended for mothers with children from birth to 90 days old (postpartum or corrected for gestational age). However, it may be available for mothers with children up to 21 months old when medically necessary. There is a limit of five counseling sessions per child, and each session can last up to 90 minutes. This service limit may be exceeded based on medical necessity.

Medical lactation services provided in hospital outpatient clinics, physician or medical diagnostic clinics, and physician offices shall be performed by either:

- Physicians, certified nurse midwives (CNMs), nurse practitioners (NPs), physician assistants (PAs), and **Local Health Departments (LHDs)** who have training and experience providing medical lactation services
- International Board-Certified Lactation Consultants (IBCLCs) who are employed by the physician or physician group

Note: The effective date of the policy is October 1, 2018. The implementation of State policy by the KanCare managed care organizations (MCOs) may vary from the date noted in the Kansas Medical Assistance Program (KMAP) bulletins. The **KanCare Open Claims Resolution Log** on the KMAP [Bulletins](#) page documents the MCO system status for policy implementation and any associated reprocessing completion dates, once the policy is implemented.

For the changes resulting from this provider bulletin, view the updated *Professional Fee-for-Service Provider Manual*, Section 8400, page 8-32.

KMAP

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