



Senior & Long Term Care Division Community Services Bureau Big Sky Waiver Policy Manual

Title: BSW 727
Section: SERVICES
Subject: Private Duty Nursing
Reference: ARM 37.40.1447; Big Sky Waiver (BSW) Application (01/01/2018)
Supersedes: BSW 727 (08/01/2011)

DEFINITION

Private duty nursing services are medically necessary services provided to members who require continuous in-home nursing care only when Home Health services are not appropriate or available and must comply with the Montana Nurse Practice Act.

SERVICE REQUIREMENTS

Private duty nursing services must be provided by a registered nurse (RN) or licensed practical nurse (LPN) licensed to practice in Montana. Persons providing private duty nursing services must meet licensure and certification requirements provided in ARM 8.32.401 et.seq.

Private duty nursing services provided by an LPN must be supervised by an RN, physician, dentist, osteopath, or podiatrist authorized by state law to prescribe medication and treatment.

Private duty nursing services are provided only when Home Health services are not appropriate or available and must comply with the Montana Nurse Practice Act.

Private duty nursing services are provided according to the member's service plan, which documents the member's specific health-related need for nursing. Use of a nurse to routinely check skin condition, review medication, and use or perform other nursing duties in the absence of a specific identified problem is not allowable. General statements such as "monitor health needs" are not considered sufficient documentation for this service.

LIMITATIONS

Private duty nursing services under BSW are not available to members under 21 who are eligible for State Plan (EPSDT) private duty nursing services, regardless if

- a. State Plan (EPSDT) does not provide PDN services (e.g. sufficient nursing staff are not available); or
- b. A need for PDN services is requested that exceeds State Plan (EPSDT)'s authorization. These situations require the member to pursue their concerns through the EPSDT appeal procedure.

EXCEPTION: Coverage of PDN may, under rare situations, be approved under BSW, e.g. PDN is required for respite that exceeds the time EPSDT PDN is provided to a member.

See BSW 722 (Personal Assistance Services) for nursing available under the Specially Trained Attendant service.