



Rule Category:
Medical

Ref: No:
2022-MN-066

Version Control:
Version No.1.0.

Effective Date:
30-01-23

Revision Date:
30-01-24



Occupational Therapy

Adjudication Guideline

Table of content

Abstract Page	Scope Page	Adjudication Policy Page	Adjudication examples Page	Denial codes Page	Appendices Page
------------------	---------------	-----------------------------	-------------------------------	----------------------	--------------------

Abstract

For Members

Occupational therapy is defined as the therapeutic use of everyday life occupations with persons, groups, or populations (i.e., the client) for the purpose of enhancing or enabling participation. These services include acquisition and preservation of occupational identity for clients who have or are at risk for developing an illness, injury, disease, disorder, condition, impairment, disability, activity limitation, or participation restriction.

For Medical Professionals

Purpose of evaluation in occupational therapy

The purpose of an evaluation visit is to assess areas of function so that the occupational therapist can develop a treatment plan to meet the patient's specific needs. The areas assessed during an OT evaluation depend on the patient's age, diagnosis, and rehabilitation needs.

Purpose of Re-evaluation in occupational therapy

Re-evaluation is not a routine or a recurring service assessment of patient status, the documentation of the re-evaluation **includes all of the following elements:**

1. An evaluation of progress toward current goals.
2. Making a professional judgment about continued care.
3. Making a professional judgment about revising/ modifying goals and/or treatment or terminating services AND

An exacerbation or significant change in patient/client status or condition is documented.

Approved by:
Daman

Responsible:
Medical Standards & Research

Related Adjudication Guidelines:

Disclaimer

By accessing these Daman Adjudication Guidelines, you acknowledge that you have read and understood the terms of use set out in the disclaimer below:

The information contained in this Adjudication Guideline is intended to outline the procedures of adjudication of medical claims as applied by the National Health Insurance Company – Daman PJSC (hereinafter "Daman"). The Adjudication Guideline is not intended to be comprehensive, should not be used as treatment guidelines and should only be used for the purpose of reference or guidance for adjudication procedures and shall not be construed as conclusive. Daman in no way interferes with the treatment of patient and will not bear any responsibility for treatment decisions interpreted through Daman Adjudication Guideline. Treatment of patient is and remains at all times the sole responsibility of the treating Healthcare Provider. This Adjudication Guideline does not grant any rights or impose obligations on Daman. The Adjudication Guideline and all of the information it contains are provided "as is" without warranties of any kind, whether express or implied which are hereby expressly disclaimed.

Under no circumstances will Daman be liable to any person or business entity for any direct, indirect, special, incidental, consequential, or other damages arising out of any use of, access to, or inability to use or access to, or reliance on this Adjudication Guideline including but without limitation to, any loss of profits, business interruption, or loss of programs or information, even if Daman has been specifically advised of the possibility of such damages. Daman also disclaims all liability for any material contained in other websites linked to Daman website.

This Adjudication Guideline is subject to the laws, decrees, circulars and regulations of Abu Dhabi and UAE. Any information provided herein is general and is not intended to replace or supersede any laws or regulations related to the Adjudication Guideline as enforced in the UAE issued by any governmental entity or regulatory authority, or any other written document governing the relationship between Daman and its contracting parties.

This Adjudication Guideline is developed by Daman and is the property of Daman and may not be copied, reproduced, distributed or displayed by any third party without Daman's express written consent. This Adjudication Guideline incorporates the Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®), which is a registered trademark of the American Medical Association ("AMA") and the CPT codes and descriptions belong to the AMA. Daman reserves the right to modify, alter, amend or obsolete the Adjudication Guideline at any time by providing one month prior notice.

PUBLIC

The National Insurance Company - Daman (PJSC) (P.O. Box 128888, Abu Dhabi, U.A.E. Tel No. +97126149555 Fax No. +97126149550)

Doc Ctrl No.:	TEMP/350	Version No.:	1	Revision No.:	1	Date of Issue:	16.07.2019	Page No(s).:	1 of 5
---------------	----------	--------------	---	---------------	---	----------------	------------	--------------	--------

Scope

This Adjudication Rule highlights the medical necessity, policy coverage and payment terms and requirements administered by Daman for Occupational therapy.

Adjudication Policy

Eligibility / Coverage Criteria

1. An occupational therapist is responsible for all aspects of **the evaluation, and re-evaluation process**.
2. **Group therapy** will not be covered as it consists of simultaneous treatment of two or more patients who may or may not be doing the same activities.
3. **The type of modalities** such as heat/ cold packs, electrotherapy, heat therapy etc., depends on the condition of the patient and clinician's choice and are generally applied to reduce pain or improve functionality.
4. In case of a team therapy, the therapist cannot bill for his/her services and those of another therapist or a therapy assistant, when both provide the same or different services, at the same time, to the same patients.
5. When a physical and occupational therapist both provide services to one patient at the same time, only one therapist can bill for the entire service, or the PT and OT can divide the service units.
6. When **re-evaluations** are done for a significant change in condition, documentation must show a significant improvement, decline or change in the patient's diagnosis, condition or functional status that was not anticipated in the current plan of care.
7. A **re-evaluation** is not a routine, recurring service. Do not bill for routine re-evaluations, including those done for the purpose of completing an updated plan of care, a recertification report, a progress report, or a physician progress report.
8. These re-evaluation codes are untimed, billable as one unit.
9. Indications for a re-evaluation include new clinical findings, a significant change in the patient's condition or failure to respond to the therapeutic interventions outlined in the plan of care.
10. OT services must be ordered / referred by a specialist physician within the scope of specialty or other licensed health care practitioner and performed by a duly licensed and certified, if applicable, OT provider.
11. Occupational therapy services are considered medically necessary only if there is a reasonable expectation that OT will achieve **measurable improvement** in the member's condition in a reasonable and predictable period.

Purpose of evaluation in occupational therapy

The purpose of an evaluation visit is to assess areas of function so that the occupational therapist can develop a treatment plan to meet the patient's specific needs. The areas assessed during an OT evaluation depend on the patient's age, diagnosis, and rehabilitation needs.

Purpose of Re-evaluation in occupational therapy

Re-evaluation is not a routine or a recurring service assessment of patient status, the documentation of the re-evaluation **includes all of the following elements**:

1. An evaluation of progress toward current goals.
2. Making a professional judgment about continued care.
3. Making a professional judgment about revising/ modifying goals and/or treatment or terminating services **AND**

An exacerbation or significant change in patient/client status or condition is documented.

PUBLIC

Eligible Clinicians:

Performing Clinicians
Occupational Therapist
Occupational Medicine
Occupational Therapy Technician
Senior Occupational Therapist

Requirements for Coverage

- Failure to submit, upon request or when requesting a clinical history, indication the need for testing will result in rejection of claim.
- Kindly code the ICD-10 and the CPT codes to the highest level of specificity.
- The ICD-10 codes that indicate the need for Trigger Point Injections are mandatory for the smooth flow of the claim from submission level to payment level.

Non-Coverage

1. Asymptomatic persons or in persons without an identifiable clinical condition is considered as preventive and not medically necessary.
2. Occupational Therapy will not be covered for Basic plan and Visitor's plan.
3. Autism spectrum disorders without Autism benefit, and Psychiatry related diagnosis without Psychiatry benefit.
4. If there is no Rehabilitation benefit.
5. Rehabilitation services under Direct billing for all plans other than Thiqa.
6. Multiple modalities procedures that have similar or overlapping physiologic effects.
7. Community or Group sessions.
8. Experimental, Investigational, Unproven services.
9. Driver's training.
10. A transient and easily reversible loss or reduction in function.

Payment and Coding Rules

- Please apply regulator payment rules and regulations and relevant coding manuals for ICD, CPT, etc. Kindly code the ICD-10 and the CPT codes to the highest level of specificity.
- Other Treatment modalities must precede Trigger Point Injections.

Denial codes

Regulator denial codes with description are elaborated for reference.

These are specialized codes directed by regulator, that explains the reason of rejection of the service by DAMAN to the providers.

Code	Code description
NCOV-003	Service(s) is (are) not covered
MNEC-003	Service is not clinically indicated based on good clinical practice
MNEC-004	Service is not clinically indicated based on good clinical practice, without additional supporting diagnosis/ activities.
MNEC-005	Service/ supply may be appropriate, but too frequent.

PUBLIC

The National Insurance Company - Daman (PJSC) (P.O. Box 128888, Abu Dhabi, U.A.E. Tel No. +97126149555 Fax No. +97126149550)

Doc Ctrl No.:	TEMP/350	Version No.:	1	Revision No.:	1	Date of Issue:	16.07.2019	Page No(s).:	3 of 5
---------------	----------	--------------	---	---------------	---	----------------	------------	--------------	--------

Appendices

Additional Information

JAWDA clinical quality KPI: Not applicable

Questionnaire:

<https://www.damanhealth.ae/main/pdf/support/Questionnaire/OccupationalTherapyForm.pdf>

A. References

- https://research.aota.org/ajot/article/75/Supplement_3/7513410030/23113/Standards-of-Practice-for-Occupational-Therapy
- <https://www.aota.org/practice/practice-essentials/coding/what-are-performance-deficits>
- <https://practiceperfectemr.com/blog/how-to-count-performance-deficits-in-the-new-ot-evaluation-codes/>
- <https://www.aota.org/-/media/Corporate/Files/Advocacy/Reimb/Coding/final%20version%2010%20page%20article.pdf>
- <https://www.findlay.edu/health-professions/occupational-therapy/Shared%20Documents/Standards%20of%20Practice.pdf>
- <https://www.usa.edu/blog/how-to-become-an-occupational-therapist/>
- <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/occupational-therapy/>
- <https://chicagooccupationaltherapy.com/articles/how-long-will-my-child-need-occupational-therapy/>
- https://www.cms.gov/medicare/billing/therapyservices/downloads/11_part_b_billing_scenarios_for_pts_and_ots.pdf
- [for-patients-guidelines-for-therapy-PDF.pdf](#)
- https://therapylog.typepad.com/direct_services_resources/NEW%20OT%20Evaluation%20and%20Re-evaluation%20-%20AOTA%20Guidelines.pdf
- <https://neolytix.com/occupational-therapy-medical-billing-coding-guide/>
- <https://scota.net/resources/Documents/AOTA%202020%20Code%20of%20Ethics.pdf>
- <https://www.rcot.co.uk/practice-resources/rcot-publications/downloads/neonatal-services>
- https://research.aota.org/ajot/article/75/Supplement_3/7513410030/23113/Standards-of-Practice-for-Occupational-Therapy
- <https://otaus.com.au/practice-support/guides-to-good-practice>
- <https://www.mediclinic.ae/en/corporate/services-and-specialities/occupational-therapy.html>
- <https://www.experityhealth.com/blog/new-evaluation-management-codes-2017/>
- <https://www.hca.wa.gov/assets/billers-and-providers/op-rehabilitation-bi-20170101.pdf>
- <https://www.aota.org/~media/Corporate/Files/Advocacy/Federal/coding/Performance-Deficits-new-CPT-evaluation-codes.pdf>
- <https://otaus.com.au/practice-support/areas-of-practice>
- <https://www.webpt.com/blog/farewell-97001-how-to-use-the-new-pt-and-ot-evaluation-codes/>
- <https://www.simplepractice.com/resource/occupational-therapy-cpt-codes/>
- <https://www.kumc.edu/school-of-medicine/academics/departments/population-health/research/stroke-impact-scale.html>
- <https://guides.emich.edu/c.php?g=259436&p=2081301>
- <https://www.strokeaudit.org/SupportFiles/Documents/Guidelines/Profession-Specific-Guides/6-Occupational-Therapy.aspx>
- <https://www.nhsinform.scot/tests-and-treatments/counselling-and-therapies/occupational-therapy>
- <https://www.usa.edu/blog/how-to-become-an-occupational-therapist/>
- <https://www.therapycomply.com/Pennsylvania-OT-Orders>
- <https://www.torontochildrentherapycentre.ca/ot-program/fine-and-gross-motor-skills/>
- <https://www.choosingwisely.org/patient-resources/occupational-therapy/>
- <https://chicagooccupationaltherapy.com/articles/how-long-will-my-child-need-occupational-therapy/>
- <https://www.elemy.com/studio/occupational-therapy/will-ot-help/>

B. Revision History

PUBLIC

The National Insurance Company - Daman (PJSC) (P.O. Box 128888, Abu Dhabi, U.A.E. Tel No. +97126149555 Fax No. +97126149550)

Doc Ctrl No.:	TEMP/350	Version No.:	1	Revision No.:	1	Date of Issue:	16.07.2019	Page No(s).:	4 of 5
---------------	----------	--------------	---	---------------	---	----------------	------------	--------------	--------

Date	Change(s)
27-12-22	Release of V1.0

PUBLIC

The National Insurance Company - Daman (PJSC) (P.O. Box 128888, Abu Dhabi, U.A.E. Tel No. +97126149555 Fax No. +97126149550)

Doc Ctrl No.:	TEMP/350	Version No.:	1	Revision No.:	1	Date of Issue:	16.07.2019	Page No(s).:	5 of 5
---------------	----------	--------------	---	---------------	---	----------------	------------	--------------	--------