

Premier Health Insuring Corporation

POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL

Policy Number: PA.054.PC
Last Review Date: 09/10/2015
Effective Date: 01/01/2016
Renewal Date: 01/01/2017

PA.054.PC – Nutritional Support

This policy applies to the following line(s) of business:

- ✓ Premier Health Insuring Corporation MA – DSNP

Premier Health Insuring Corporation considers Nutritional Support Products medically necessary for the management of certain inborn errors of metabolism and inherited metabolic disorders for the following disorders:

- a. Phenylketonuria
- b. Branch-chain ketonuria
- c. Galactosemia
- d. Homocysteinuria
- e. Allergic reaction or malabsorption syndromes, specifically hemorrhagic colitis

Coverage is independent of whether the product is administered orally or enterally.

Amino acid-based elemental medical formula are covered when ordered/prescribed by a physician for documented medical necessity to infants or children (under 18 years old) administered orally or enterally for food protein allergies, food protein-induced enterocolitis syndrome, eosinophilic disorders, and short-bowel syndrome. An amino acid-based elemental formula covered under this section is a formula made of 100% free amino acids as the protein source.

Limitations

1. Food additives are a non-covered service in all cases.
2. Grocery items and over-the-counter items are non-covered service in all cases.
3. The medical necessity for special-needs enteral formulas must be justified and documented.
4. The feeding supply kit must correspond to the method of administration.
5. Not medically necessary and not covered:
 - a. Multiple kit types used on the same date of service.
 - b. More than three nasogastric tubes (NG), or one gastrostomy/jejunostomy tube every three months.

Background

There are many physical conditions that cause the inability to eat enough food to maintain health. Some examples are decreased appetite, difficulties in swallowing, or any type of surgery that interferes with eating. If eating is still possible, oral nutritional products can be used with the purpose of restoring or maintaining adequate nutritional

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status, weight, or strength for the maintenance of overall health. Some patients require supplementation of their daily protein and caloric intake. Nutritional supplements are often given as a medicine between meals to boost protein-caloric intake or the mainstay of a daily nutritional plan. Many oral nutritional products are widely available through commercial retail; however, there are some products that require the prescription of a doctor.

If a physical illness or injury causes the inability to eat, nutrition must be supplied in a different way. One method is enteral nutrition which is commonly known as tube feeding. Enteral nutrition is considered reasonable and necessary for a patient with a functioning gastrointestinal tract who, due to pathology to, or non-function of, the structures that normally permit food to reach the digestive tract, cannot maintain weight and strength commensurate with his or her general condition. Enteral therapy may be given by nasogastric, jejunostomy, or gastrostomy tubes and can be provided safely and effectively in the home by nonprofessional persons who have undergone special training.

Codes:

HCPSC codes covered if selection criteria are met (If Appropriate):	
Code	Description
B4100	Food thickener, administered orally, per ounce
B4102	Enteral formula, for adults, used to replace fluids and electrolytes (e.g. clear liquids), 500ml = 1 unit
B4103	Enteral formula, for pediatrics, used to replace fluids and electrolytes (e.g. clear liquids), 500ml = 1 unit
B4104	Additive for enteral formula (e.g. fiber)
B4149	Enteral formula, manufactured blenderized natural foods with intact nutrients, includes proteins, fats, carbohydrates, vitamins and minerals, may include fiber, administered through an enteral feeding tube, 100 calories = 1 unit
B4150	Enteral formula, nutritionally complete with intact nutrients, includes proteins, fats, carbohydrates, vitamins and minerals, may include fiber, administered through an enteral feeding tube, 100 calories = 1 unit
B4152	Enteral formula, nutritionally complete, calorically dense (equal to or greater than 1.5 Kcal/ml) with intact nutrients, includes proteins, fats, carbohydrates, vitamins and minerals, may include fiber, administered through an enteral feeding tube, 100 calories = 1 unit

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B4153	Enteral formula, nutritionally complete, hydrolyzed proteins (amino acids and peptide chain) includes fat, carbohydrates, vitamins and minerals, may include fiber, administered through an enteral feeding tube, 100 calories = 1 unit
B4154	Enteral formula, nutritionally complete, for special metabolic needs, excludes inherited disease of metabolism, includes altered composition of proteins, fats, carbohydrates, vitamins and minerals, may include fiber, administered through an enteral feeding tube, 100 calories = 1 unit
B4155	Enteral formula, nutritionally incomplete/modular nutrients, includes specific nutrients, carbohydrates (e.g. glucose polymers), proteins/amino acids (e.g. glutamine arginine), fat (e.g. medium chain triglycerides) or combination, administered through an enteral feeding tube, 100 calories = 1 unit
B4157	Enteral formula, nutritionally complete for special metabolic needs for inherited disease of metabolism, includes proteins, fats, carbohydrates, vitamins minerals, may include fiber, administered through an enteral feeding tube, 100 calories = 1 unit
B4158	Enteral formula, for pediatrics, with intact nutrients, includes proteins, fats, carbohydrates, vitamins and minerals, may include fiber and /or iron, administered through an enteral feeding tube, 100 calories = 1 unit
B4159	Enteral formula, for pediatrics, nutritionally complete soy based with intact nutrients, includes proteins, fats, carbohydrates, vitamins and minerals, may include fiber and/or iron, administered through an enteral feeding tube, 100 calories = 1 unit
B4160	Enteral formula, for pediatrics, calorically dense (equal to or greater than 0.7 Kcal/ml) with intact nutrients, includes proteins, fats, carbohydrates, vitamins and minerals, may include fiber, administered through an enteral feeding tube, 100 calories = 1 unit
B4161	Enteral formula, for pediatrics, hydrolyzed/amino acids and peptide chain proteins, includes fat, carbohydrates, vitamins and minerals, may include fiber, administered through an enteral feeding tube, 100 calories = 1 unit
B4162	Enteral formula, for pediatrics, for special metabolic needs for inherited disease of metabolism, includes proteins, fats, carbohydrates, vitamins minerals, may include fiber, administered through an enteral feeding tube, 100 calories = 1 unit

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B4158	Enteral formula, for pediatrics, with intact nutrients, includes proteins, fats, carbohydrates, vitamins and minerals, may include fiber and /or

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B4162	Enteral formula, for pediatrics, for special metabolic needs for inherited disease of metabolism, includes proteins, fats, carbohydrates, vitamins minerals, may include fiber, administered through an enteral feeding tube, 100 calories = 1 unit

References

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Disclaimer:

Premier Health Insuring Corporation medical payment and prior authorization policies do not constitute medical advice and are not intended to govern or otherwise influence the practice of medicine. The policies constitute only the reimbursement and coverage guidelines of Premier Health Insuring Corporation and its affiliated managed care entities. Coverage for services varies for individual members in accordance with the terms and conditions of applicable Certificates of Coverage, Summary Plan Descriptions, or contracts with governing regulatory agencies.

Premier Health Insuring Corporation reserves the right to review and update the medical payment and prior authorization guidelines in its sole discretion. Notice of such changes, if necessary, shall be provided in accordance with the terms and conditions of provider agreements and any applicable laws or regulations.

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