RHODE ISLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE CLAIM REIMBURSEMENT GUIDEBOOK for

EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES



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I. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

I.1 Purpose of This Claiming Guide

This Rhode Island Medical Assistance Claiming Reimbursement Guidebook for Early Intervention Services, developed by the Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS), contains information to assist State-certified Early Intervention (EI) providers in Rhode Island with EI direct services claiming. This Guide is intended for all EI provider staff. EOHHS may provide additional information for this Guide in the future.

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I.2 Medicaid

Medicaid is a Federal/State assistance program established in 1965 as Title XIX of the Social Security Act. State Medicaid programs are overseen by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. State Medicaid programs are jointly funded by federal and state governments and are administered by each individual state to assist in the provision of medical care to income eligible children and pregnant women, and to eligible individuals who are aged, blind, or disabled. Medicaid programs pay for services identified in a plan, called the Medicaid State Plan, some of which are mandated by the Federal government and others that are optional and determined to be covered by each State.

For more information on Medicaid, please refer to www.cms.hhs.gov

I.3 Medical Assistance in Rhode Island

The Medicaid program in Rhode Island is called the Rhode Island Medical Assistance Program and is administered by the Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS). Families and children in RI may become eligible for Medicaid by applying for coverage through the following: RIteCare, RIteShare, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Katie Beckett, or Adoption Subsidy. For more information, please refer to: http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/

I.4 Medicaid Payer of Last Resort

Under Medicaid law and regulations, Medicaid is generally the payer of last resort. A third party – any individual, entity or program – may be liable to pay all or part of the costs for medical assistance for Medicaid-covered services. The U.S. Congress intended that Medicaid pay for health care only after a beneficiary's other health care resources were accessed. Even though services provided through IDEA are exempt from the free care principle, EI providers must comply with third-party liability (TPL) policies. What this means for EI providers in Rhode Island is they must submit a claim to a third-party insurer other than Medicaid if there is one available. If the provider receives an appropriate denial of payment from the third-party insurer for the claim, then the provider can submit a claim to Rhode Island Medical Assistance for payment. There are some exceptions to the provisions of Medicaid as the payer of last resort that allows Medicaid to be the primary payer to another federal or federally funded program and these include Medicaid-covered services listed on a Medicaid eligible child's IFSP. Medicaid will pay primary to IDEA.²

Federal regulatory requirements for TPL are explicated in Subpart D of 42 CFR 433. It should be noted that Section 433.139 (c) provides: "If the probable existence of third party liability cannot be established or third party benefits are not available to pay the recipient's medical expenses at the time the claim if filed, the agency must pay the full amount allowed under the agency's payment schedule."

I.5 EI Provider Participation Requirements for Rhode Island Medical Assistance

In order to participate in Rhode Island Medical Assistance, EI providers must meet two basic requirements. First, EI providers must be certified by the State according to the *Early Intervention Certification Standards*. The most current version of these certification standards can be found at:

http://www.eohhs.ri..gov

Second, providers must have a participation agreement with the Rhode Island Medical Assistance fiscal agent, and meet other requirements established by the fiscal agent. Addenda D and E describe these requirements.

As Addendum A shows, insurers in the State of Rhode Island must cover EI services; and such coverage cannot be subject to deductibles or coinsurance requirements. Addendum F lists the insurer contacts, with which EI providers may deal concerning participation and other matters. EI providers should contact the insurers directly for the most up-to-date policies, procedures, and materials.

¹ Health Care Financing Administration. *Medicaid and School Health*, 1997.

² Ibid.

I.6 The Role of Early Intervention

Section 631 of Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA, or 20 USC 1431 *et. seq.*) provides formula grants to States and territories to assist in maintaining and implementing statewide systems of coordinated, comprehensive, multidisciplinary, interagency programs of Early Intervention (EI) services for infants and toddlers up to age three with disabilities and their families.

In Rhode Island, the EI system is designed to meet the needs of eligible infants and toddlers and their families, as early as possible. The purpose of the EI system is to support families' capacity to enhance the growth and development of their children birth to 36 months who have developmental challenges. Eligible children may have certain diagnosed conditions, delays in their development, or be experiencing circumstances which are highly likely to result in significant developmental problems, particularly without intervention.

EI services are designed to serve families of children younger than three years of age who are experiencing developmental delays in one or more of the following areas: cognitive, physical, communicative, social/emotional or adaptive development skills.

Early Intervention is designed to: 1) increase the developmental and functional capacity of infants and young children with special needs, and 2) increase the capacity of parents to meet the special needs of their children. The intent of Rhode Island's Early Intervention system is to establish and support a service delivery model that supports the development of infants and toddlers and utilizes evidence-based practice known to promote learning in young children. This service delivery model identifies the parent/adult caregiver as the primary consumer of Early Intervention services because he/she is the primary agent(s) of change for the child's well-being and development. Rhode Island's Early Intervention reimbursement policies and practices support the provision of adult-focused, team-based interventions to all eligible children and their families.

Certified EI providers must ensure that families have access to the services required by IDEA, when such services are identified within the context of the child's Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP). The services required by IDEA, as stated in Section 303.13, include: assistive technology device, assistive technology service, audiology, family training/counseling/home visits, health services, medical services (only for diagnostic or evaluation purposes), nursing services, nutrition services, occupational therapy, physical therapy, psychological services, service coordination services, social work services, special instruction, speech-language pathology services, transportation and related costs, and vision services.

I.7 Early Intervention Medicaid Reimbursable Categories

All IDEA services are imbedded within the categories listed below. EI providers may submit claims within the following services categories:

- Evaluation, Assessment and Plan Development
- Assistive Technology
- Audiology
- Family Training/Counseling
- Interpretation/Translation
- Nursing Services
- Nutrition Services
- Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Psychological Services
- Service Coordination
- Social Work Services
- Speech-Language Pathology
- Transportation
- Vision Services

The definition of each billing category represents a continuum of activities within that individual category. Each definition reflects the variety of activities that occur during an EI visit and the unique skills each service provider brings. The assumption that EI services/activities are responsive and dynamic is a guiding principle of the Rhode *Island Medical Assistance Claim Reimbursement Guidebook for Early Intervention Services*. It is the state's intention to ensure that the billing categories are aligned with the home visiting model so that one category encompasses a visit rather than the provider splitting the visit into different billing categories.

The subsequent chapters of this Guide describe each service in terms of:

- Definition³
- Billable Activities
- National Code Definition
- Billing Guidance

³ Definitions of service categories were adopted from Infant & Toddler Connection of Virginia – Practice Manual (8/09)

II. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS for EARLY INTERVENTION REIMBURSEMENT

- It is the responsibility of the EI provider to collect and continuously verify insurance coverage and to request reimbursement accordingly.
- The Services Rendered Form (SRF) or the electronic record Session Note is used to document all reimbursable services for a child. The SRF/Session Note must include a description of the service provided which supports the billing code, the elapsed time, and the personnel involved. The SRF/Session Note must describe the provider's participation in the visit as well as the parent's participation and include a plan for between visits. The person signing the SRF/Session Note must be the person who actually provided the service and she/he must meet RI Early Intervention Certification Standards regarding staff qualifications.
- All Services Rendered Forms/Session Notes must be retained in the child's record.
 Complete records for Medicaid claiming purposes must be retained for ten (10) years according to State law.
- In order to submit a claim for reimbursement the service must be identified on the child's IFSP. Services may not begin before the parent has signed the IFSP or has signed an update to the IFSP. Four categories of services are not required on the IFSP services summary page in order to submit a claim. They are: 1.) Evaluation/Assessment & Plan Development Service, 2.) Interpretation/Translation, 3.) Service Coordination and 4.) Transportation. Prior to the Eligibility/IFSP meeting no other codes may be utilized except Interpretation (T1013), Translation (T1013TL), Service Coordination (T1016) for intake and evaluation activities as specified in Section III and Supervision (H0046) when exceptional circumstances (documented on an SRF/Session Note) require supervisory support. After the Eligibility/IFSP meeting, Family Training Education and Support T1027/T1027HN or T1024/T1024HN may be utilized to conduct a Routines Based Assessment. In addition, Family Training Education and Support T1027/T1027HN and T1024 with appropriate modifiers may be utilized for IFSP development. These two activities are considered Evaluation/Assessment and Plan development and are not required to be listed on the IFSP.
- Prior to submitting any activity for reimbursement, Providers must first review the *Procedural Safeguards and Funding* booklet with all families, and, for families with private insurance, Providers must complete the Health Insurance Consent to Release Information form with the family.
- The IFSP indicates which services (by category) the child and family will receive. Each service recorded on the IFSP must match what is recorded and billed for on the SRF/Session Note. The category listed on the IFSP, SRF/Session Note and SRF/Session Note billing code with the modifier used by discipline specific staff must be in alignment. The modifier used for individual or team treatment must match the category listed on the

IFSP and the SRF/Session Note must describe activities that meet the definition of that category on the IFSP. The IFSP category for each procedure code (unless specified as N/A) is included in sections II through XVII.

- Infants and toddlers learn best through everyday experiences and interactions with familiar people in familiar contexts. The mission of Early Intervention is to build upon what families and caregivers are already doing to support their child's development and provide them with support and resources to continue to enhance their children's learning through everyday learning opportunities. All early intervention services listed on the IFSP must be provided in natural environments, which includes the home and community settings in which children without disabilities participate. Reimbursement is not provided for placements in community programs. RI does not reimburse for tuition for "classes", day care; YMCA memberships etc. Reimbursement is allowed to provide support for children to participate successfully in community activities when they are a part of the child and family's natural routines. Only when the team cannot effectively provide services within the child's routines, is discussion to occur regarding the provision of services in another setting. Sufficient justification must be provided for any service delivered outside the natural environment.
- The purpose of EI is to coach parents and caregivers in order to successfully implement the strategies developed by the IFSP team. The parent and/or caregiver must be present and a participant in order to be reimbursed for any individual service listed on the IFSP. For group services, the parent and/or caregiver must be present and participate for more than 50% of the time for each group service.
- Maximum units of service are per day, unless otherwise noted.
- Units billed must reflect actual time spent providing the service, but no more than the maximum allowed.
- Only one claim per child per code (up to the maximum allowed) can be submitted for reimbursement per day. Codes with different modifiers are considered different codes. If a service is provided twice in one day for a child (e.g., service coordination) the sum up to the allowable maximum allowed is what should appear on the request for reimbursement.
- An overall guideline for billing is the concept of one code, per service, per child with the exception of team treatment.
- The use of modifiers recognizes case complexity and enables some services (e.g. team coordination and team treatment) to occur at the same time. Modifiers also allow for increased reimbursement for intensive parent child group settings which require additional staff.
- RI Early Intervention Programs may utilize contracted qualified providers by having a contract with a qualified professional or agency. The EI program in which the child is

enrolled is responsible for data entry and the claims process. Certified EI programs may contract with other certified EI programs.

- Providers contracting with another EI program must coordinate services if both providers utilize the same code on the same day. Maximum units are the benefit limit for the family per day and risk being exceeded without coordination of services. For example, if each provider visits separately on the same day and each bill the same code T1027HN they could exceed the maximum units allowed. If the same service is provided twice in one day for a child, the sum, up to the allowable maximum allowed, is what should appear on the request for reimbursement.
- All services are covered up to but not including the child's 3rd birthday
- Once eligibility has been determined if further evaluation is necessary this is reimbursable utilizing discipline specific evaluation codes (see specific discipline sections). Evaluations must be conducted solely for purposes related to IFSP development and service delivery. Assessments and on-going assessment are reimbursable utilizing code T1027 with the appropriate staff modifier.
- Denials and/or co-payments from insurance companies can be submitted to Gainwell for reimbursement as the payer of last resort (See Addendum E). An allowable alternative to a denial from an insurance company can be other evidence that the service is not covered, such as a phone call with an attached reference number which indicates the service is not a covered benefit or a copy of the policy indicating the service is not a covered benefit. Providers should keep this documentation on file and code the electronic claim appropriately or send a paper claim with the TPL form attached.
- Providers must document the presence of staff for codes requiring more than one staff
 member and record time spent on activities related to in flat rate codes in the following
 ways.
 - o For paper or electronic SRFs the following 990 codes can be used:

990 I (Intake)
990 ME (Multidisciplinary Evaluation/Assessment)
990 IFSP
990 E (Discipline Specific Evaluation)
990 G (Group)
990 TC (Team Coordination)
990 S (Supervision)
990 PC (Parent Consultant)

o For the electronic record, the Session Note captures additional staff and their time in the Additional Providers section of the note. Activities related to flat rate codes can be recorded under the Eligibility Determination service using the non-billable primary actions: "Other intake activity" and "Other evaluation activity".

III. EVALUATION/ASSESSMENT & PLAN DEVELOPMENT

Procedure Codes listed below are for Evaluation/Assessment & Plan Development Codes

Procedure	Description	Unit of	Max	Rate	Minimum	IFSP
Codes		Service	Units		Criteria	Category
T1023	Intake	1	1	\$354.44	Practitioner	N/A
					Level I	
H2000	Comprehensive	1	1	\$1064.36	Practitioner	N/A
	Multidisciplinary				Level II	
	Evaluation/Assessment				(2 individuals)	
T1023TL	Individual Family	1	1	\$54.44	Practitioner	N/A
	Service Plan (IFSP)				Level I	
	Meeting					

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National Code Definition

T1023	Screening To Determine The Appropriateness Of Consideration Of An
	Individual For Participant In A Specified Program, Project Or
	Treatment Protocol, Per Encounter.
H2000	Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Evaluation

Modifier Description(s)

TL Early Intervention/Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP)

Billing Guidance

T1023 Intake

Activities related to establishing a record and gathering/sharing information to plan for the multi-disciplinary eligibility evaluation

Activities related to the client record:

- Processing referral
 - Respond to initial phone call by referral source.
 - Complete Referral and Demographics information.
 - Demographics and Discharge (for children found not eligible) data entered into Welligent.
 - Verification of insurance
- KIDSNET review
- Case assignment

Complete intake visit with family:

- Share information about Early Intervention and complete required paperwork:
 - Provide and explain Procedural Safeguards and Funding document.
 - Complete the following required Early Intervention forms: Child's Income, Consent to Evaluate, Health Insurance Consent to Release Information, KIDSNET Consent to Release Information, and consent to the exchange of information with medical providers and other agencies as needed.
- Gather and document information related to parent concerns, priorities, developmental history, family resources/supports, and other relevant information that supports eligibility.
- Complete Intake SRF/Session Note.
- Provide the family with prior written notice of evaluation.
- ➤ Providers will be reimbursed one rate for a complete Intake which meets the above requirements. The date of service on the SRF/Session Note for Intake is the date that

the face to face visit occurred with the parent. The actual minutes of the face to face meeting should be recorded on the SRF/Session Note using code T1023 up to 90 minutes. Time spent over 90 minutes is recorded as Service Coordination utilizing code T1016 for up to 30 minutes (2 units) if needed. If more than one staff person participates in the intake, or if the intake visit exceeds 120 minutes this time can be documented using 990I (Intake) on an SRF. If using a Session Note, time for additional staff can be documented in the Additional Providers section of the note. If the time spent at the intake visit exceeds 120 minutes, the additional time can be recorded on a separate Session Note under the Eligibility Determination service using the non-billable primary action: "Other intake activity". The SRF/Session Note for Intake is submitted for reimbursement when all requirements are met.

- ➤ In addition to the Intake code, the following are allowable billable service coordination activities using T1016:
 - Contact family to initiate and explain EI process; set up initial appointment; gather initial information and answer family questions (2 units maximum)
 - Intensive intake visit: time spent over 90 minutes with the family as described above (2 units maximum)
 - Gathering additional functional information from collateral resources (e.g., child care, family visiting, medical providers) and/or noncustodial parents/caregivers to inform eligibility (4 units maximum)
 - For children involved with the Department of Children Youth and Family, additional activities related to gathering information from DCYF, biological and foster families (up to 4 units maximum)
- The rate for a complete Intake is the maximum allowed for this activity. Discipline-specific codes cannot be billed in addition to the Intake code. Service Coordination (T1016) is allowed only for the activities listed. If needed, Interpreter/Translation Code T1013 and T1013TL may be billed in addition to T1023.
- The Intake code T1023 may be used for second episodes and transfers from another EI agency.
- All intake activities must be documented either utilizing a billable code as defined in this section or 990I if using an SRF. If using a Session Note, these additional activities are documented using either the Additional Providers section of the Session Note or a separate Session Note with the non-billable primary action: "Other intake activity".

H2000 Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Evaluation

A multi-disciplinary evaluation/assessment to determine eligibility, and to gather information regarding child functioning. This activity is required to determine initial eligibility and whenever there is a question regarding eligibility.

A multi-disciplinary evaluation/assessment is always followed by an Eligibility/IFSP meeting.

Preparation for the evaluation

- Select the members of the evaluation team, the tools/methods to be used, and when the evaluation will occur. Evaluators are selected based on the areas of developmental concerns and family questions.
- Preparation of resources that address family concerns.
- Communication between members of the team to prepare for the evaluation.

Evaluation/Assessment of child

- By two practitioner Level II staff, representing two different disciplines, and utilizing at least two different evaluation methods that must include a standardized evaluation tool.
- Must assess child functioning in all five developmental domains: Physical (motor, hearing, and vision), Cognitive, Adaptive, Social/Emotional and Communication.
- Gathering information regarding the child's functioning in the three integrated global outcomes.
- Must include the service coordinator if not already part of the evaluation team.
- Complete RI Early Intervention Evaluation Summary page of the IFSP.

Documentation of present levels of development

- Complete Child Outcome Summary COS B of the IFSP including written documentation regarding the child's functioning in all developmental domains that is age-anchored using the three global Child Outcomes as a framework.
- ➤ In the case that the service coordinator attends the eligibility visit as the third member of an evaluation team, up to 8 units of T1016 may be billed.
- ➤ Providers will be reimbursed one rate for a complete H2000 Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Evaluation/Assessment which meets the above requirements. The date of service on the SRF/Session Note for Multidisciplinary Evaluation/Assessment is the date that the evaluation occurred. The actual minutes of the Multidisciplinary Evaluation/Assessment should be recorded on the SRF/Session Note using code H2000. The SRF/Session Note for Multidisciplinary Evaluation/Assessment is submitted for reimbursement when all requirements are met.

- A Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Evaluation/Assessment includes 2 evaluators and must be chosen based on areas of developmental concerns and family questions. The purpose of this activity is to determine eligibility and the flat rate is the maximum allowed. If the team decides that additional discipline-specific evaluations are necessary to guide interventions, this activity should be completed at a later date and billed accordingly.
- ➤ When the child meets one of the conditions on the Single Established Conditions list, all Multi-Disciplinary Evaluation/Assessment requirements must be met. Because eligibility is known, the use of a standardized tool is not required.
- The rate for a complete Multi-Disciplinary Evaluation/Assessment is the maximum allowed for this activity. Discipline-specific codes cannot be billed in addition to the Multi-Disciplinary Evaluation/Assessment code. Service coordination is allowed only in the case that the service coordinator attends the eligibility visit as the third member of the evaluation team. If needed, Interpreter/Translation Code T1013 and T1013TL may be billed in addition to H2000.
- All Multi-Disciplinary Evaluation/Assessment activities must be documented either utilizing a billable code as defined in this section or 990ME if using an SRF. If using a Session Note, these additional activities are documented using either the Additional Providers section of the Session Note or a separate Session Note with the non-billable primary action: "Other evaluation activity".

T1023TL Eligibility/ Individualized Family Service Plan Meeting

managem	I			
T1023TL	Eligibility/IFSP Meeting			
Eligibility/ IFSP Meeting	Eligibility/IFSP Meeting referral	nust occur within 45 days of		
Meeting to discuss the child's		ibility/IFSP Meeting must be		
present levels of development and	provided			
determine the child's eligibility for		lopment must be discussed with		
early intervention.		work of the three child outcomes		
If eligible, to discuss concerns		oning compares to same-aged		
priorities and resources of the	peers.The child's eligibility for l	Early Intervention is determined.		
family.		be provided to the family to		
	inform them of their child			
		st be provided to inform the		
	parent about their right to	dispute the eligibility		
	determination.			
	If the child is not eligible,	If the child is eligible,		
	the parent must be	providers must:		
	provided with:	Discuss family concerns,		
	The Rhode Island	priorities, and resources		
	Evaluation Summary of	Schedule a meeting with		
	the IFSP and COS B	the family to develop the		
	 Documentation of discharge status. 	IFSP, including a Routines Based		
	 Support to make 	Assessment		
	connections with other	See T1027/T1024		
	community resources Family Training			
	that meet their needs. Education and Support for IESP development			
	See T1016 Service	for IFSP development		
	Coordination • Send and obtain signed Physician's			
	Physician's Authorization			
	Prepare written response to referral source			
	regarding eligibility within 45 days of referral (not			
	applicable when re-determining eligibility)			
T1027/T1027HN/T1024/T1024HN	Conduct a Routines Based Assessment to further explore			
Family Training Education and	the concerns, priorities, and resources of the family as it			
Support to conduct a Routines Based Assessment	relates to their child's development.			
Daseu Assessment				
T1027/T1024 (with applicable	IFSP development to complete the IFSP occurs after the			
modifiers) Family Training	Routines Based Assessment has been conducted, and			
Education and Support for	includes the following activities:			
IFSP development for an IFSP		IFSP Meeting is provided to		
Meeting	the family.			

The development of outcomes and services of the IFSP and the completion of COS C.

- Based on the concerns and priorities of the family, the IFSP team, including the family, develops IFSP outcomes and IFSP services are designated to support identified outcomes.
- For Initial IFSPs only, the team selects an overall statement of functioning utilizing COS C, based on multiple sources of information, including the present levels of development (COS B), Multidisciplinary Evaluation/Assessment, the Family Directed Assessment, and Routines Based Assessment.
- IFSP Child/Family Outcomes, Early Intervention Services and IFSP Acknowledgments are documented in the IFSP.
- Prior Written Notice and Procedural Safeguards are provided to the family for the initiation of the services.
- Written parental consent is obtained prior to the provision of early intervention services described in the IFSP.

Individualized Family Service Plan Meeting (to annually review the IFSP)

Family Training Education and Support T1027/24 (with applicable modifiers) to conduct an IFSP meeting to annually review the IFSP

An IFSP meeting is held annually to review the IFSP and includes the following activities:

- Written notice for the IFSP Meeting must be provided.
- The present levels of development are discussed with the parent (based on a review of current evaluations and ongoing assessment).
- The status of continued eligibility for early intervention services is communicated.
- A discussion of the concerns, priorities and resources of the family occurs and is documented on an SRF/Session Note.
- Review Child/Family Outcomes are reviewed and updated.
 Current IFSP Services are reviewed and changed as needed to support identified outcomes.
- Prior Written Notice and Procedural Safeguards are provided to the family for the initiation of the services.
- Written parental consent is obtained prior to the provision of early intervention services described in the IFSP.
- → After the Eligibility/IFSP meeting, Family Training Education and Support T1027/T1027HN or T1024/T1024HN may be utilized to conduct a Routines Based

- Interview or other method of routine based assessment (i.e., MEISR or Daily Activities and Routines).
- ➤ Providers will be reimbursed one rate for an Eligibility/IFSP meeting for each child who receives a Multidisciplinary Evaluation/Assessment (regardless of eligibility status) that meets the above requirements.
- An Eligibility/IFSP meeting is completed for an initial IFSP and an IFSP Meeting is completed to annually review the IFSP. The required components for are listed separately for each.
- ➤ The date of service on the SRF/Session Note for the Eligibility/IFSP Meeting or the annual IFSP Meeting is the date that the meeting occurred. The actual minutes of the Eligibility/IFSP meeting should be recorded on the SRF/Session Note using code T1023TL. The actual minutes of the annual IFSP Meeting should be recorded on the SRF/Session Note using Family Education Training and Support (T1027/T1027 with appropriate modifiers.)
- ➤ Other staff participating in the Eligibility/IFSP meeting or annual IFSP Meeting should be recorded as 990IFSP (IFSP meeting) on an SRF. If using a Session Note, additional staff are recorded in the Additional Providers section.
- ➤ The time for any additional activity related to an Eligibility/IFSP Meeting should be recorded as 990IFSP on an SRF. If using a Session Note, a separate Session Note should be completed using the non-billable primary action "Other evaluation activity".
- ➤ The SRF/Session Note for the Eligibility/IFSP Meeting or the annual IFSP Meeting is submitted for reimbursement when the requirements are completed.
- ➤ The rate for an Eligibility/IFSP meeting is the maximum allowed for this activity. Reimbursement for additional codes (other than translation or interpretation) for this activity is not allowed.
- ➤ Upon completion of the Eligibility/ IFSP meeting, providers can bill Family Training Education and Support T1027/24 with applicable modifiers for IFSP development.
- For children determined not eligible for Early Intervention services, up to 60 minutes (4 units) of Service Coordination (T1016) may be utilized to conduct post-eligibility activities that support families with connections for other community resources that meet their needs. These activities could include: a follow-up visit, sharing of community resources, and the facilitation of referrals for other service providers.
- A Multidisciplinary Evaluation/Assessment is required whenever there is a question of eligibility. When continued eligibility for early intervention is questionable, teams may decide that a Multidisciplinary Evaluation/Assessment is needed prior to the annual IFSP meeting. In other cases, the decision that a Multidisciplinary

Evaluation/Assessment is needed may occur at the annual IFSP meeting. Billing may occur in either order. Certain Single Established Conditions require eligibility to be re-determined in one year. Whenever a Multidisciplinary Evaluation/Assessment occurs, a new IFSP (including a family directed assessment) is completed. The process includes an Eligibility/IFSP meeting and IFSP development meeting if eligible.

An Interim IFSP may be utilized for children presumed eligible when an immediate need for services is required. An interim IFSP must include at least the cover page, IFSP Outcomes, IFSP Services and Acknowledgement pages of the IFSP. Outcomes must document presumed eligibility and the reason for immediate need for services. Bill Service Coordination T1016 for the development of the Interim IFSP and the Eligibility/IFSP meeting T1023TL when it occurs as part of the initial IFSP.

Periodic Progress Reviews

Family Training Education and Support T1027/24 (with applicable modifiers) Review the degree to which progress has been made towards IFSP outcomes and whether modifications or revisions of outcomes or services are necessary. Required every 6 months or as

requested by family or

team.

Review all outcomes and progress made to decide whether modifications of outcomes or services are necessary

- Written notice for an IFSP Meeting is required.
- Complete review of IFSP Child/Family Outcomes and Early Intervention Services pages of IFSP.
- Provide Prior Written Notice and Procedural Safeguards to the family for the initiation of any added, changed or ended services.
- Obtain signature of parent or guardian for any added, changed or ended services.

- ➤ Providers must bill Family Training Education and Support for a Periodic Progress Review which meets the above requirements.
- ➤ IFSP review and updates can occur at any time with consent of the parent but are considered Periodic Progress Reviews when <u>all of the outcomes</u> and services are reviewed. Periodic Review of the IFSP is required at least every 6 months.

IV. ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY (DEVICE AND SERVICES)

Assistive Technology Device

Any item, piece of equipment or product system, whether acquired commercially, off
the shelf, modified, or customized and used to increase, maintain, or improve
functional capabilities of an infant or toddler with a disability. The term does not
include a medical device that is surgically implanted, including cochlear implants, or
optimization (e.g., mapping), maintenance or replacement of that device

Assistive Technology Service

Any service that directly assists an infant or toddler with a disability in the selection, acquisition, or use of an assistive technology device. Assistive technology services include:

- The assessment of the needs of an infant or toddler with a disability, including a functional assessment of the child in the child's customary environment;
- Purchasing, leasing or otherwise providing for the acquisition of assistive technology devices by infants or toddlers with disabilities;
- Selecting, designing, fitting, customizing, adapting, applying, maintaining, repairing or replacing assistive technology devices;
- Coordinating and using other therapies, interventions, or services with assistive technology devices, such as those associated with existing education and rehabilitation plans and programs;
- Training or technical assistance for an infant or toddler with a disability, or if appropriate that child's family, other caregivers or service providers on the use of assistive technology determined to be appropriate; and
- Collaboration with the family and other early intervention service providers identified on an infant or toddler's IFSP.

Procedure Codes listed below are for Assistive Technology (Device)

Procedure Codes	Description	Unit of Service	Max Units	Rate	Minimum Criteria	IFSP Category
T5999	Assistive	N/A	1	As	As appropriate	Assistive
	Technology Device			billed	-	Technology

National Code Definition

T5999 Supply, Not Otherwise Specified

Billing Guidance

Assistive Technology Devices:

- Assistive technology devices help the child learn and interact with their environment in ways that might otherwise not be possible. Allowable purchased assistive technology devices include devices that are adapted or designed to increase, maintain, or improve functional capabilities of children. Allowable purchased assistive technology devices are not commonly used by all children. Examples include adapted feeding utensils, devices for seating and positioning, augmentative communication aids, communication boards, visual aids, adapted toys, switches, and hearing amplification systems.
- Toys that are not adapted or designed to increase, maintain, or improve functional capabilities of children with disabilities may be utilized by the program but are not allowable assistive technology purchases. These include dolls, balls, shape sorters, puzzles, mouthing toys, riding toys, building blocks, stuffed animals, and mobiles. In addition, generic items typically needed and used by all children are not allowed. These include music/tapes and CD's, highchairs, play tables, bookshelves, and CD players. Specialized foods and nutritional supplements are not allowable under assistive technology but if medically necessary may be provided through the child's medical insurance.
- Reimbursement is not allowed for items that are primarily and customarily used to serve a medical purpose and are necessary due to a medical condition. These items fall into the category of Durable Medical Equipment and may be covered through the child's medical insurance. Examples of these include wheelchairs, and lifts. Items which are medical/surgical such as cochlear implants and mapping are also not reimbursable.
- A Level II Practitioner must submit a SRF/Session Note using code T5999 Assistive Technology Device for an allowable assistive technology device. The SRF/Session Note briefly summarizes what the device is; which outcome the device will address; why it is necessary to meet the specific child/family outcome; and the anticipated cost. This summary is not billed but is entered in the system. Once the invoice is received for the item it should be entered in the system as a dollar amount; location is not applicable; and the payer of service is the child's insurance. Providers should submit the summary SRF/Session Note, a copy of an SRF/Session Note reflecting the assessment for assistive technology (see below) and the actual invoice amount for the device to the child's insurance or the Medicaid fiscal agent.

Assistive Technology Services:

- Assistive technology services include assessing the child's need for an assistive technology device; reviewing/discussing options with the parent; selecting a device; and providing training and technical assistance in the use of the device for the child, parent, or professionals. These activities are billable as part of the discipline providing the service.
- ➤ The process for assistive technology must include a written assessment of the child's need for assistive technology in order to meet specific child/family outcomes. An SRF/Session Note must document the assessment.
- Each assistive technology device and services related to its use must clearly be linked to an IFSP outcome. Assistive technology device is listed on the IFSP Services page; the frequency is 1 time; intensity is 0, and the location is NA. Assistive Technology device is excluded from timely service requirements.
- Low-tech assistive technology supports include materials or items, created or adapted by members of the IFSP team, that improve a child's functioning in, and/or access to, daily routines and activities. The time spent developing low-tech assistive technology supports is reimbursable.
 - If low-tech assistive technology supports are created with the family, during a visit, this time is reimbursable as part of the service being provided.
 - If low-tech assistive technology supports are created at the EI office, up to 30 minutes (2 units) of Service Coordination (T1016) may be billed. (See XIII. Service Coordination)
- Activities occurring at the EI office such as reviewing/researching products, coordination around purchasing, and vendor consultations are considered service coordination and are reimbursable using code T1016 Service Coordination. (See XIII. Service Coordination)

V. AUDIOLOGY

Audiology Services

- Identification of children with auditory impairment, using at risk criteria and appropriate audiological screening techniques;
- Determination of the range, nature, and degree of hearing loss and communication functions by use of audiological evaluation procedures;
- Referral for medical and other services necessary for habilitation or rehabilitation of children with auditory impairments;
- Provision of auditory training, aural rehabilitation, speech reading and listening device orientation and training, and other services;
- Provision of services for prevention of hearing loss; and
- Determination of the child's need for individual amplification, including selecting, fitting, and dispensing appropriate listening and vibrotactile devices, and evaluating effectiveness of those devices.

Procedure Codes listed below are for Audiology Services

Procedure	Description	Unit of	Max	Rate	Minimum Criteria
Codes		Service	Units		
V5008	Hearing Screening	15 Min	8	\$ 46.66	Qualified
					Professional/Level II
92557	Comprehensive audiometry threshold evaluation	15 min	8	\$ 50.50	Licensed Audiologist
V5010	Assessment for hearing aid	15 min	8	\$ 46.66	Licensed Audiologist

National Code Definition

V5008	Hearing Screening
92557	Comprehensive audiometry threshold evaluation and speech recognition
	(92553 and 92556 combined)
V5010	Assessment for Hearing Aid

Billing Guidance

➤ Providers billing Hearing Screening must use an Otoacoustic Emission device

VI. FAMILY TRAINING/COUNSELING

Family Training Education and Support

- Screening, assessment and planned intervention services to address the functional and developmental needs of an infant or toddler with a disability with an emphasis on developmental areas including, but not limited to, cognitive processes, communication, motor, behavior and social interaction;
- Provision of services including auditory training, aural rehabilitation, sign language and cued language services, speech reading and listening device orientation and training, and other training to increase the functional communication skills of an infant or toddler with a hearing loss;
- Collaboration with the family, service coordinator and other early intervention service providers identified on an infant's or toddler's IFSP;
- Consultation to design or adapt learning environments, activities and materials to enhance learning opportunities for an infant or toddler with a disability; and
- Family training, education and support provided to assist the family of an infant or toddler with a disability in understanding his or her functional developmental needs and to enhance his or her development.

Procedure Codes listed below are for Family Education Training and Support Services

Procedure Codes	Description	Unit of Service	Max Units	Rate	Minimum Criteria	IFSP Category
	mily Training Edu			rt		curegory
T1027	Family Training, Education and Support	15 Min	8	\$ 50.50	Practitioner Level II	FTC
T1027HN	Family Training, Education and Support	15 Min	8	\$ 41.20	Practitioner Level I	FTC
T1027TGHO	Family Training, Education and Support	15 Min	8	\$ 50.50	Certified Teacher of the Deaf	FTC
T1024	Team Treatment	15 Min	8	\$ 50.50	Practitioner Level II	FTC
T1024HN	Team Treatment	15 Min	8	\$ 41.20	Practitioner Level I	FTC
T1024TGHO	Team Treatment	15 Min	8	\$ 50.50	Certified Teacher of the Deaf	FTC

Procedure	Description	Unit of	Max	Rate	Minimum Criteria	IFSP
Codes	_	Service	Units			Category
Family Train	ing Education and	Support P	arent/C	hild Group		
S9446TF	Family Training,	15 Min	8	\$ 23.33	Practitioner	FTC
	Education and				Level I	
	Support					
	Group (up to 2					
	staff)					
S9446TG	Family Training,	15 Min	8	\$ 29.89	Practitioner Level II	FTC
	Education and					
	Support					
	Group-Intensive					
	(3 or more staff)					
Family Educa	ation Training and	Support P	arent E	ducation Gro	oup	
S9446	Family Training,	15 Min	10	\$ 23.33	Practitioner Level II	FTC
	Education and					
	Support-Parent					
	Education Group					

National Code Definition

T1027	Family training and counseling for child development, per 15 minute unit
T1024	Evaluation and treatment by an integrated specialty team to provide coordinated care to multiple or severely handicapped children, per encounter (one encounter is defined as one 15 minute unit)
S9446	Patient Education, Not Otherwise Classified, Non-Physician Provider, Group, Per Session (one session is defined as one 15 minute unit)

Modifier Description

HN	Practitioner Level I
TF	Moderate
TG	Complex
НО	Master's Degree

Billing Guidance

Family Training, Education and Support:

- Family Training, Education and Support has a broad definition and is the code used to describe most early intervention services which occur with the family.
- Family Training Education and Support, TT027 / T1027HN, is the code utilized to conduct a Routines Based Assessment. This activity is considered Evaluation/Assessment and Plan development and is not required to be listed on the IFSP. The maximum time allowed is 8 units.
- Family Training Education and Support may be utilized once eligibility has been determined for treatment planning activities with the family such as: IFSP development activities including the development of outcomes, services pages of the Initial IFSP, annual or periodic reviews of outcomes; IFSP meetings to add, change or update services; discussions with parents about IFSP services; transition activities, participation in the transition conference, referral meeting and the IEP meeting; discussions about relevant family needs, family updates, medical updates, upcoming appointments including visits with other members of the team and attending /participating in medical appointments. Team Treatment may be utilized if another member of the IFSP team participates.
- Family Training Education and Support includes utilizing a coaching approach with the parent or caregiver including:
 - Demonstrating, showing
 - Modeling, narrating, explaining, teaching
 - Observing parent or caregiver in the implementation/practice of strategy
 - Observing how child responded to a strategy/intervention
 - Giving feedback to a parent/caregiver
 - Planning with the parent/caregiver
 - Discussing interventions/strategies and the parent or caregiver's feedback about their implementation
 - Discussing parent/caregiver concerns related to their child's development, or disabilities
 - Discussing/planning carryover of strategies
- Family Training Education and Support may be utilized for activities with the family such as discussions about medical needs, housing, employment etc.; providing and reviewing handouts on general health/safety topics such as safe sleep, mold, and lead; supporting the parent in scheduling an appointment for other services such as educational, social and medical services; and supporting the parent to research a topic or diagnosis.

- Family Training, Education and Support can be used to provide support and education for caregivers in the community (child care; community groups) to incorporate IFSP outcomes into the child's daily routines but a caregiver cannot be reimbursed to provide early intervention services.
- Family Training Education and Support can be used for sign language and cued language training.
- Feam Treatment is a code for use when two professionals are providing services during the same session at the same time for an individual child/family. Family Training Education and Support may be provided with another discipline by utilizing code T1024 or T1024HN depending on qualifications. Other members of the IFSP team use a modifier representing their discipline and each member may bill for the entire session. In rare instances two providers of Family Training Education and Support with different areas of expertise may use T1024 and T1024HN for team treatment if no other discipline specific modifier is identified for their use. There must be a clear, clinical purpose for team treatment and role for each provider. Documentation for team treatment must support treatment by 2 individuals, providing two distinctly different services at the same time for the entire time billed and must include the parent's participation in the visit.
- Feam treatment may be used to facilitate the carry over and reinforcement of strategies to be used with the family by a primary service provider (Service Coordinator/Educator/Early Interventionist.) In this case, a member of the IFSP team with expertise different from the primary service provider demonstrates/coaches/models strategies to the parent and primary service provider. Active participation in the team treatment by both service providers is required, including practice and demonstration by both the primary service provider and the parent. Evidence of implementation of strategies by the primary service provider into subsequent visits is required.
- ➤ Team treatment is the code to use if an RBI is conducted by two individuals, however the second individual must bill T1024HN. Maximum allowed time is 8 units.
- Feam treatment may be provided by two staff from different EI agencies through contractual arrangements. Each staff person utilizes code T1024 with their specific discipline modifier on separate agency SRF/Session Notes. When each provider is a Level II Educator (with no modifier) this is allowed. Billing for two educators utilizing T1024 is for shared cases only and the total units combined cannot be over the daily maximum (8) units. Two educators may utilize T1024 to enable the EI agency providing a specialized service to assess a child while the primary educator from the main EI agency and parent implement a strategy; to demonstrate/coach/model strategies to the parent and primary educator to achieve outcomes based in daily routines in the home and community; or to implement strategies provided in a group setting in the home with the parent and primary educator

> Team treatment is not listed as a separate service on the service page of the IFSP but each category of service being provided must be.

Group Family Training Education and Support:

- ➤ Use code S9446TF Family Training, Education and Support (Group) for multidisciplinary parent/child groups. Discipline specific group codes may be used if the group is targeted to a particular domain and the provider is appropriately credentialed (See X. Occupational Therapy, XI. Physical Therapy, XV. Speech Therapy)
- > The provision of a group in a setting outside the child's natural environment requires a completed "Plan for Providing Service in a Natural Environment" which provides sufficient justification and rationale to support the team's decision that the child's outcomes could not be met in the child's natural environment at that time.
- A parent or caregiver should be present and participating in all groups. The billing for a separate parent group at the same time as a child group is not allowed. The parent must participate in the parent/child group for more than 50% of the full session time that the group is in session. Code S9446TF or code S9446TG may be utilized (see staffing requirements for code S9446TG).
- ➤ Providers may bill S9446TF; or S9446TG depending on the complex needs of the child. S9446TG reflects an intensive group setting with required numbers of staff and the opportunity for a high staff/child ratio. S9446TG may be used for a parent/child group in which there is a separate parent session as long as the staffing requirement is met for the entire session. S9446TF and S9446TG may not be combined for the same child. When billing S9446TG 3 staff must be present for the whole time the group is in session.
- > Opportunities for parent to parent support; and to develop relationships with other parents may occur when the parent is not participating in the parent/child group however these activities are not billable. Parent consultants may be utilized to facilitate opportunities for parents to be together or to provide general education around topics of parent interest.

Group Billing Examples

S9446TF Family Training Education and

Support- Group

Parent and child attend 60-minute group together. One or 2 staff facilitate the group.

(up to 2 staff)

Bill S9446TF for 60 minutes.

Group Billing Examples

S9446TF Family Training

Education and Support- Group

(up to 2 staff)

Parent and child attend a 60-minute group. For 40 minutes they are together with 2 staff facilitating. For the other 20 minutes one staff person facilitates a parent only session focusing on specific family outcomes; while the second staff person facilitates a child only session focusing on child outcomes.

Bill S9446TF for 60 minutes.

S9446TF Family Training

Education and Support- Group

(up to 2 staff)

Parent and child attend a 60-minute group. For 40 minutes they are together with 2 staff facilitating. For the other 20 minutes the parents participate in a parent only social group facilitated by a parent consultant. Two staff facilitate a child only session focusing on child outcomes.

Bill S9446TF for 60 minutes.

S9446TG Family Training

Education and Support Group Intensive

(3 staff)

Parent and child attend a 60-minute group together. The group consists of 4 children and their parents. Three staff facilitate the group.

Bill S9446TG for 60 minutes.

S9446TG Family Training

Education and Support Group Intensive

(3 staff)

Parent and child attend a 90-minute group. The group consists of 5 children and their parents. The parents and children participate together for 60 minutes with 3 staff facilitating. For the other 30 minutes the parents leave the group to attend a parent only session focusing on specific family outcomes facilitated by one staff member; the children participate in a child only session focusing on child outcomes facilitated by 2 staff

Bill S9446TG for 90 minutes.

S9446TG Family Training Parent and child attend a 90-minute group. The Education and group consists of 5 children and their parents.

Group Billing Examples

	Support Group Intensive (3 staff)	The parents and children participate together for more than half of the time (with 2 staff facilitating) and parents in the group take turns participating in a guided observation through a one-way window of the group led by a third staff. Three staff are present the entire time. Bill S9446TG for 90 minutes.
S94467	Family Training Education and Support Group Intensive (3 staff)	Parent and child attend a 90-minute group. The group consists of 5 children and their parents. The parents and children participate together for 60 minutes with 3 staff facilitating. For the other 30 minutes the parents leave the group to attend a parent support group facilitated by the parent consultant; the children participate in a child only session facilitated by 3 staff focusing on child outcomes.
		Bill S9446TG for 90 minutes.
S9446	Family Training Education and Support- Parent Education Group	A parent attends a 60-minute parent only group focusing on specific family outcomes. The group is facilitated by one staff person; the child is not in attendance.
	(up to 2 staff)	Bill S9446 for 60 minutes.

- ➤ Groups are to be billed per child/family, not per staff member. Only one billing code may be utilized per child. A Family Training Education and Support group and a therapy specific group may not be billed for a child at the same time.
- ➤ The SRF/Session Note for all groups should be signed by the staff member primarily responsible for the group. Other team members present must sign the SRF utilizing code 990G (Group) or be listed as additional providers in a Session Note. The total time may not be split and billed between staff members.
- > The SRF/Session Note for a group service should be individualized and related to individual IFSP outcomes.
- ➤ If it has been determined that a center-based group is the only way to meet an outcome, the provision of individual services within the group is not billable.
- ➤ If a group service is listed on the IFSP, the group code must be billed. If absenteeism results in an opportunity for one to one instruction to occur (for example three staff and

three children) a provider may decide to continue to operate the group with 3 staff or use less staff. The appropriate group code should be billed (S9446TF if 1-2 staff, S9446TG if 3 staff). In the case where all children but one is absent, individual FTES may be billed.

- ➤ Providers have flexibility in the use of codes S9446TF or S9446TG depending on the design of the group (for example, a group may be designed to use 3 staff initially with a plan to reduce staff as the group progresses). For each session use the code that represents the staffing for that session.
- ➤ Use Team Coordination code T1016TF or T1016TG (depending on the number of staff) to provide individualized intervention planning for a child in a group. Team Coordination does not include room set up; cleaning; or precutting art materials or theme-based planning. It does not include general debriefing after a group session. Team Coordination is individual planning for a specific child within the infant/toddler curriculum by the IFSP team/group team and includes the specialized support the child needs. The accompanying SRF/Session Note must be individualized for that specific child and summarize the discussion and plan for that child. The SRF/Session Note must also clearly reference the individualized IFSP outcomes being worked on. Example:

Team Coord	ination Example:	
T1016TG	Team	Team meets for 15 minutes to discuss the child's
	Coordination	new ability to make a simple choice between 2
		activities. However, transition from motor activity
	(3 staff)	to quiet play has become much more difficult.
		Team discusses how to move communication to
		the next benchmark and also how to use an object
		board to help with this transition. SLP will coach
		family to use board during play time with Dad.
		Bill T1016TG for 15 minutes for this individual
		child only.

- ➤ Team Coordination for a child participating in a group occurs separately for each specific child as it occurs. This means more than one child may not be billed for Team Coordination at the same time. For example, if Team Coordination meetings occur for each child in a group which had six children, each child would be discussed for 15 minutes and a separate SRF/Session Note describing each discussion would be submitted. (i.e. the team would have met totally for 90 minutes.)
- A group is defined as at least two (2) children; and siblings may not be the only children in the group.
- Reimbursement is only allowed for the children in attendance on that day.
- ➤ Bill S9446 for Parent Education Groups (parent only). The setting for group parent education is N/A and a "Plan for Providing Services in a Natural Environment" is not needed. However, the parent group must specifically be intended to achieve the

- individual IFSP outcomes. The SRF/Session Note should be individualized and related to individual IFSP outcomes.
- Family Training Education and Support- Parent Education Group is utilized for the *Hanen Program* for Parents; *It Takes Two to Talk* and *More than Words*. Parent group sessions utilize S9446 for the weekly session the parent attends and is written in the IFSP as FTC; (Method) Group. For individual videotaping and consultation sessions in the home the individual speech service code T1027GN is utilized and is listed on the IFSP as Speech; (Method) Individual. The setting for group parent education is N/A and the setting for the individual speech sessions is the natural environment. A "Plan for Providing Services in a Natural Environment" for the group sessions is not needed.

VII. INTERPRETATION/TRANSLATION

Procedure Codes listed below are for Interpretation/Translation Services

Procedure Codes	Description	Unit of Service	Max Units	Rate	Minimum Criteria	IFSP Category
T1013	Interpretation	15 min	16	\$ 27.48	N/A	N/A
T1013TL	Translation	15 min	16	\$ 27.48	N/A	N/A

National Code Definition

T1013 Sign Language or Oral Interpretive Services, Per 15 Minutes TL EI/IFSP

Billing Guidance

- Interpretation is available to all families as needed in order to fully participate in Early Intervention. Unless clearly not feasible to do so, evaluations and assessments of the child must be conducted in the child's native language if determined developmentally appropriate by qualified personnel conducting the evaluation or assessment. Unless clearly not feasible to do so, family assessments must be conducted in the family member's native language.
- Interpretation may be reimbursed through Early Intervention, only when no other method of interpretation is available. Interpretation is a covered benefit for RIteCare members. Information regarding this benefit is available in the member's handbook or online at www.nhpri.org, www.uhccommunityplan.com, or www.tuftshealthplan.com/ritogether
- ➤ The length of time billed for interpretation services may be no more than the same length of time as the visit. It must be indicated on an SRF with the accompanying service or on a separate Session Note.
- ➤ When interpretation occurs for more than one child/family at the same time (group), the total time billed should be divided between each child/family needing interpretation services.
- ➤ Translation of Early Intervention documentation including an SRF/Session Note or any part of the IFSP may be reimbursed if requested by the parent in order to fully participate in Early Intervention. SRF/Session Note for this service must indicate specifically what was translated. The maximum units allowed for translation is the total allowed per document (16 units total). Maximum units allowed per day is 16 units.

>	Providers are encouraged to take advantage of on-line translation or translation software to reduce translation time to make maximum use of the translation units available.

VIII. NURSING SERVICES

Nursing

- Collaboration with family members or other service providers who are identified on an
 infant's or toddler's IFSP concerning the special health care needs of the infant or toddler
 that will impact or need to be addressed during the provision of other early intervention
 services;
- Assessment of health status for the purpose of providing nursing care, including identification of patterns of human response to actual or potential health problems;
- Provision of nursing care to prevent health problems, restore or improve functioning and promote optimal health and development;
- Administration of medications, treatments, and regimens prescribed by a licensed physician;
- Family training, education and support provided to assist the family of an infant or toddler with a disability in understanding his or her special health care needs; and
- Provision of such services as clean intermittent catheterization, tracheotomy care, tube feeding, the changing of dressings or colostomy collection bags, and other health services when necessary in order for the infant or toddler to participate in other early intervention services

Procedure Codes listed below are for Nursing Services

Procedure Codes	Description	Unit of Service	Max Units	Rate	Minimum Criteria	IFSP Category
T1027TD	Family Training Education and Support-Services by a Nurse	15 min	8	\$ 50.50	Licensed RN	Nursing
T1024TD	Team Treatment- Services by a Nurse	15 min	8	\$ 50.50	Licensed RN	Nursing

National Code Definition

T1027	Family training and counseling for child development, per 15 minute unit
T1024	Evaluation and treatment by an integrated specialty team to provide coordinated care to multiple or severely handicapped children, per
	encounter (one encounter is defined as one 15 minute unit)

Modifier Description

TD Licensed RN

33

Billing Guidance

- Family Training Education and Support by a Nurse includes treatment planning activities related to Nursing such as IFSP development activities, annual or periodic review of outcomes, IFSP meetings to add, change or update services, discussions with parents about IFSP services, transition planning with the family, participation in the transition conference, referral meeting and the IEP meeting, discussions about family updates, relevant family needs, medical updates, upcoming appointments including visits with other members of the team and attending /participating in medical appointments. Team treatment may be utilized by a Nurse to participate in treatment planning activities with another member of the IFSP team.
- Family Training Education and Support by a Nurse includes utilizing a coaching approach with the parent or caregiver including:
 - Demonstrating, showing
 - Modeling, narrating, explaining, teaching
 - Observing parent or caregiver in the implementation/practice of strategy
 - Observing how child responded
 - Giving feedback to parent
 - Planning with the parent
 - Discussing interventions/strategies and the parent or caregiver's feedback about their implementation
 - Discussing parent/caregiver concerns related to their child's development, or disabilities
 - Discussing/planning carryover of strategies
- Family Training Education and Support by a Nurse may be utilized for activities with the family such as discussions about medical needs; providing and reviewing handouts on general health/safety topics, such as safe sleep, mold, lead, etc.; supporting the parent in activities such as scheduling an appointment for other services such as educational, social, and medical services; and supporting the parent to research a topic or diagnosis.
- Feam Treatment is when two professionals are actively participating in the delivery of services during the same session for an individual child/family. A Nurse may use code T1024TD when providing team treatment. Each member of the team uses the modifier representing their discipline and each may bill for the entire session. There must be a clear, clinical purpose for team treatment and role for each provider. Documentation for team treatment must support treatment by 2 individuals, providing two distinctly different services at the same time for the entire time billed and must include the parent's participation in the visit. Team treatment is not listed as a separate service on the service page of the IFSP but each discipline providing team treatment must be. Two Nurses may not bill team treatment at the same time.

Team treatment may be used when two members of a team provide an assessment at the same time (for example an RN and a SLP conduct a feeding team evaluation for a child with significant feeding issues; or a co-visit by a PT and OT to do a comprehensive assessment/consult to specifically look at motor functions for a child).		

IX. NUTRITION SERVICES

Nutrition Services:

- Assessment of the nutritional and feeding status of an infant or toddler with a disability related to his or her development, including nutritional history and dietary intake; anthropometric, biochemical, and clinical variables; feeding skills and feeding problems; and food habits and food preferences;
- Collaboration with the family, service coordinator and other early intervention service providers identified on an infant's or toddler's IFSP;
- Development, implementation and monitoring or appropriate plans to address the nutritional needs of children eligible for early intervention supports and services, based on the findings of individual assessments;
- Referral to community resources to carry out nutritional goals and referrals for community services, health or other professional services, as appropriate; and
- Family training, education and support provided to assist the family of an infant or toddler with a disability in understanding his or her needs related to nutrition and feeding and to enhance his or her development.

Procedure Codes listed below are for Nutrition Services

Procedure Codes	Description	Unit of Service	Max Units	Rate	Minimum Criteria	IFSP Category
T1027AE	Family Training Education and Support-Services by a Nutritionist	15 min	8	\$ 50.50	Licensed Dietitian/ Nutritionist	Nutrition
T1024AE	Team Treatment- Services by a Nutritionist	15 min	8	\$ 50.50	Licensed Dietitian/ Nutritionist	Nutrition

National Code Definition

11027	Family training and counseling for child development, per 15 minute unit
T1024	Evaluation and treatment by an integrated specialty team to provide coordinated care to multiple or severely handicapped children, per encounter (one encounter is defined as one 15 minute unit)

Modifier Description

AE Licensed Dietitian/Nutritionist

- Family Training Education and Support by a Nutritionist includes treatment planning activities related to Nutrition such as IFSP development activities, annual or periodic review of outcomes, IFSP meetings to add, change or update services, discussions with parents about IFSP services, transition activities, such as participation in the transition conference, referral meeting or IEP meeting; discussions about family updates, relevant family needs, medical updates, upcoming appointments including visits with other members of the team and attending /participating in medical appointments. Team treatment may be utilized by a Nutritionist to participate in treatment planning activities with another member of the IFSP team.
- Family Training Education and Support by a Nutritionist includes utilizing a coaching approach with the parent or caregiver including:
 - Demonstrating, showing
 - Modeling, narrating, explaining, teaching
 - Observing parent or caregiver in the implementation/practice of strategy
 - Observing how child responded
 - Giving feedback to parent
 - Planning with the parent
 - Discussing interventions/strategies and the parent or caregiver's feedback about their implementation
 - Discussing parent/caregiver concerns related to their child's development, or disabilities
 - Discussing/planning carryover of strategies
- Family Training Education and Support by a Nutritionist may be utilized for activities with the family such as discussions about medical needs, providing and reviewing relevant handouts, supporting the parent in activities such as scheduling an appointment for other services such as educational, social and medical services; and supporting the parent to research a topic or diagnosis.
- Feam Treatment is when two professionals are actively participating in the delivery of services during the same session for an individual child/family. A Nutritionist may use code T1024AE when providing team treatment. Each member of the team uses the modifier representing their discipline and each may bill for the entire session. There must be a clear, clinical purpose for team treatment and role for each provider. Documentation for team treatment must support treatment by 2 individuals, providing two distinctly different services at the same time for the entire time billed and must include the parent's participation in the visit. Team treatment is not listed as a separate service on the service page of the IFSP but each discipline providing team treatment must be. Two Nutritionists may not provide team treatment at the same time.
- ➤ Team treatment may be used when two members of a team provide an assessment at the same time (for example a Nutritionist and a SLP conduct a feeding team evaluation for



X. OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Occupational Therapy Services:

Services to address the functional needs of an infant or toddler with a disability related to adaptive development, adaptive behavior and play, and sensory, motor, and postural development. These services are designed to improve the child's functional ability to perform tasks in home, school, and community settings and include:

- Screening, evaluation, assessment and intervention services to address the functional developmental needs of an infant or toddler with a disability with an emphasis on selfhelp skills, fine and gross motor development, mobility, sensory integration, behavior, play and oral-motor functioning;
- Adaptation of the environment, and selection, design, and fabrication of assistive and orthotic devices to facilitate development and promote the acquisition of functional skills;
- Prevention or minimization of the impact of initial or future impairment, delay in development, or loss of functional ability;
- Collaboration with the family, service coordinator and other early intervention service providers identified on an infant's or toddler's IFSP;
- Family training, education and support provided to assist the family of an infant or toddler with a disability in understanding his or her functional developmental needs and to enhance his or her development.

Procedure Codes listed below are for Occupational Therapy

Procedure	Description	Unit of	Max	Rate	Minimum	IFSP
Codes		Service	Units		Criteria	Category
97165	Occupational	1	1	\$ 233.29	Licensed OT	Occupational
	Therapy Evaluation			flat rate		Therapy
	Low Complexity					
97166	Occupational	1	1	\$ 233.29	Licensed OT	Occupational
	Therapy Evaluation			flat rate		Therapy
	Moderate					
	Complexity					
97167	Occupational	1	1	\$ 233.29	Licensed OT	Occupational
	Therapy Evaluation			flat rate		Therapy
	High Complexity					
97168	Occupational	1	1	\$ 233.29	Licensed OT	Occupational
	Therapy			flat rate		Therapy
	Reevaluation					
T1027GO	Family Training	15 min	8		Licensed	Occupational
	Education and			\$ 50.50	OT/COTA	Therapy
	Support-Services					
	provided by an					
	OT/COTA					

S9446GO	Family Training	15 min	8	\$ 23.33	Licensed	Occupational
	Education and				OT/COTA	Therapy
	Support-OT Group-					
	Services provided					
	by an OT/COTA					
T1024GO	Team Treatment-	15 min	8	\$ 50.50	Licensed	Occupational
	Services provided				OT/COTA	Therapy
	by an OT/COTA					

COTA= Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant

National Code Definition

97165

Occupational therapy evaluation, <u>low complexity</u>, requiring these components: An occupational profile and medical and therapy history, which includes a brief history including review of medical and/or therapy records relating to the presenting problem; an assessment(s) that identifies 1-3 performance deficits (i.e., relating to physical, cognitive, or psychosocial skills) that result in activity limitations and/or participation restrictions; and clinical decision making of low complexity, which includes an analysis of the occupational profile, analysis of data from problem-focused assessment(s), and consideration of a limited number of treatment options. Patient presents with no comorbidities that affect occupational performance. Modification of tasks or assistance (e.g., physical or verbal) with assessment(s) is not necessary to enable completion of evaluation component. Typically, 30 minutes are spent face-to-face with the patient and/or family.

97166

Occupational therapy evaluation, <u>moderate complexity</u>, requiring these components: An occupational profile and medical and therapy history, which includes an expanded review of medical and/or therapy records and additional review of physical, cognitive, or psychosocial history related to current functional performance; an assessment(s) that identifies 3-5 performance deficits (i.e., relating to physical, cognitive, or psychosocial skills) that result in activity limitations and/or participation restrictions; and clinical decision making of moderate analytic complexity, which includes an analysis of the occupational profile, analysis of data from detailed assessment(s), and consideration of several treatment options. Patient may present with comorbidities that affect occupational performance. Minimal to moderate modification of tasks or assistance (e.g., physical or verbal) with assessment(s) is necessary to enable patient to complete evaluation component. Typically, 45 minutes are spent face-to-face with the patient and/or family.

97167

Occupational therapy evaluation, <u>high complexity</u>, requiring these components: An occupational profile and medical and therapy history, which includes review of medical and/or therapy records and extensive additional review of physical, cognitive, or psychosocial history related to current functional performance; an assessment(s) that identifies 5 or more performance deficits (i.e., relating to physical, cognitive, or psychosocial skills) that result in activity limitations and/or participation restrictions; and clinical decision making of high analytic complexity, which includes an analysis of the patient profile, analysis of data from comprehensive assessment(s), and consideration of multiple treatment options. Patient presents with comorbidities that affect occupational performance. Significant modification of tasks or assistance (e.g., physical or verbal) with assessment(s) is necessary to enable patient to complete evaluation component. Typically, 60 minutes are spent face-to-face with the patient and/or family.

97168

Reevaluation of occupational therapy established plan of care, requiring these components: An assessment of changes in patient functional or medical status with revised plan of care; an update to the initial occupational profile to reflect changes in condition or environment that affect future interventions and/or goals; and a revised plan of care. A formal reevaluation is performed when there is a documented change in functional status or a significant change to the plan of care is required. Typically, 30 minutes are spent face-to-face with the patient and/or family

T1027

Family training and counseling for child development, per 15 minute unit

S9446

Patient education, not otherwise classified, non-physician provider, group, per session (one session is defined as one 15 minute unit)

T1024

Evaluation and treatment by an integrated specialty team to provide coordinated care to multiple or severely handicapped children, per encounter (one encounter is defined as one 15 minute unit)

Modifier Description(s)

GO Licensed OT/COTA

- Family Training Education and Support by an Occupational Therapist includes treatment planning activities related to Occupational Therapy services such as IFSP development activities, annual or periodic review of outcomes, IFSP meetings to add, change or update services, discussions with parents about IFSP services; discussions about family updates, relevant family needs, medical updates and upcoming appointments including visits with other members of the team and attending /participating in medical appointments. Team treatment may be utilized by an Occupational Therapist to participate in treatment planning activities with another member of the IFSP team.
- Family Training Education and Support by an Occupational Therapist includes utilizing a coaching approach with the parent or caregiver including:
 - Demonstrating, showing
 - Modeling, narrating, explaining, teaching
 - Observing parent or caregiver in the implementation/practice of strategy
 - Observing how child responded
 - Giving feedback to parent
 - Planning with the parent
 - Discussing interventions/strategies and the parent or caregiver's feedback about their implementation
 - Discussing parent/caregiver concerns related to their child's development, or disabilities
 - Discussing/planning carryover of strategies
- Family Training Education and Support by an Occupational Therapist may be utilized for activities with the family such as discussions about medical needs, providing and reviewing relevant handouts, supporting the parent in activities such as scheduling an appointment for other services such as educational, social, and medical services; and supporting the parent to research a topic or diagnosis.
- An Occupational Therapy Evaluation includes a summary of child's functioning and recommendations for strategies, services and supports. An OT Evaluation may not be billed at the same time as any other code. Other staff participating in the Occupational Therapy Evaluation utilize code 990E (Evaluation) on an SRF, or, if using a Session Note, additional staff are listed in the Additional Providers section. Therapists should select the Occupational Therapy Evaluation code that represents the complexity of the evaluation provided.
- ➤ Billing practices regarding Occupational Therapy Group are the same as Family Training Education and Support (Group) (See VI Family Training Education and Support)

- Feam Treatment is when two professionals are actively participating in the delivery of services, during the same session for an individual child/family. An OT or COTA may use code T1024GO when providing team treatment. Each member of the team uses the modifier representing their discipline and each may bill for the entire session. There must be a clear, clinical purpose for team treatment and role for each provider. Documentation for team treatment must support treatment by 2 individuals, providing two distinctly different services at the same time for the entire time billed and must include the parent's participation in the visit. The SRF/Session Note must document each provider's role. Team treatment is not listed as a separate service on the service page of the IFSP but each discipline providing team treatment must be. Two OTs or an OT and COTA may not bill team treatment at the same time.
- From treatment may be used when two members of a team provide an assessment at the same time (for example an OT and a SLP conduct a feeding team evaluation for a child with significant feeding issues; or a co-visit by a PT and OT to do a comprehensive assessment/consult to specifically look at motor functions for a child).

XI. PHYSICAL THERAPY

Physical Therapy Services: Services to address the promotion of sensorimotor function through enhancement of musculoskeletal status, neurobehavioral organization, perceptual and motor development, cardiopulmonary status, and effective environmental adaptation. These services include:

- Screening, evaluation, assessment and intervention services to address the functional developmental needs of an infant or toddler with a disability with an emphasis on mobility, positioning, fine and gross motor development, and both strength and endurance, including the identification of specific motor disorders;
- Adaptation of the environment, and selection, design, and fabrication of assistive and orthotic devices to facilitate development and promote the acquisition of functional skills;
- Obtaining, interpreting, and integrating information appropriate to program planning to prevent, alleviate, or compensate for movement dysfunction and related functional problems;
- Providing individual and group services or treatment to prevent, alleviate, or compensate for movement dysfunction and related functional problems;
- Collaboration with the family, service coordinator and other early intervention service providers identified on an infant's or toddler's IFSP; and
- Family training, education and support provided to assist the family of an infant or toddler with a disability in understanding his or her functional developmental needs and to enhance his or her development.

Procedure Codes listed below are for Physical Therapy

Procedure	Description	Unit of	Max	Rate	Minimum	IFSP
Codes		Service	Units		Criteria	Category
97161	Physical Therapy	1	1	\$ 233.29	Licensed PT	Physical
	Evaluation			flat rate		Therapy
	Low Complexity					
97162	Physical Therapy	1	1	\$ 233.29	Licensed PT	Physical
	Evaluation			flat rate		Therapy
	Moderate Complexity					
97163	Physical Therapy	1	1	\$ 233.29	Licensed PT	Physical
	Evaluation			flat rate		Therapy
	High complexity					
97164	Physical Therapy	1	1	\$ 233.29	Licensed PT	Physical
	Reevaluation			flat rate		Therapy
T1027GP	Family Training Education	15 min	8	\$ 50.50	Licensed	Physical
	and Support-Services				PT/PTA	Therapy
	provided by an PT/PTA					

S9446GP	Family Training Education	15 min	8	\$ 23.33	Licensed	Physical
	and Support- PT Group-				PT/PTA	Therapy
	Services provided by an					
	PT/PTA					
T1024GP	Team Treatment- Services	15 min	8	\$ 50.50	Licensed	Physical
	provided by an PT/PTA				PT/PTA	Therapy

PTA= Physical Therapy Assistant

National Code Definition

97161

Physical therapy evaluation: **low complexity**, requiring these components: A history with no personal factors and/or comorbidities that impact the plan of care; an examination of body system(s) using standardized tests and measures addressing 1-2 elements from any of the following: body structures and functions, activity limitations, and/or participation restrictions; a clinical presentation with stable and/or uncomplicated characteristics; and clinical decision making of low complexity using standardized patient assessment instrument and/or measurable assessment of functional outcome. Typically, 20 minutes are spent face-to-face with the patient and/or family.

97162

Physical therapy evaluation: **moderate complexity**, requiring these components: A history of present problem with 1-2 personal factors and/or comorbidities that impact the plan of care; an examination of body systems using standardized tests and measures in addressing a total of 3 or more elements from any of the following body structures and functions, activity limitations, and/or participation restrictions; an evolving clinical presentation with changing characteristics; and clinical decision making of moderate complexity using standardized patient assessment instrument and/or measurable assessment of functional outcome. Typically, 30 minutes are spent face-to-face with the patient and/or family.

97163

Physical therapy evaluation: https://doi.or.org/high-roll/ evaluation: https://doi.or.org/high-roll/ the plan of care; an examination of body systems using standardized tests and measures addressing a total of 4 or more elements from any of the following: body structures and functions, activity limitations, and/or participation restrictions; a clinical presentation with unstable and unpredictable characteristics; and clinical decision making of high complexity using standardized patient assessment instrument and/or measurable assessment of functional outcome. Typically, 45 minutes are spent face-to-face with the patient and/or family

.

97164	Reevaluation of physical therapy established plan of care, requiring these components: An examination including a review of history and use of standardized tests and measures is required; and revised plan of care using a standardized patient assessment instrument and/or measurable assessment of functional outcome. Typically, 20 minutes are spent face-to-face with the patient and/or family.
T1027	Family training and counseling for child development, per 15 minute unit
S9446	Patient education, not otherwise classified, non-physician provider, group, per session (one session is defined as one 15 minute unit)
T1024	Evaluation and treatment by an integrated specialty team to provide coordinated care to multiple or severely handicapped children, per encounter (one encounter is defined as one 15 minute unit)

Modifier Description(s)

GP Licensed PT/PT

- Family Training Education and Support by a Physical Therapist includes treatment planning activities related to Physical Therapy services such as IFSP development activities, annual or periodic review of outcomes, IFSP meetings to add, change or update services, discussions with parents about IFSP services; transition activities, such as participation in the transition conference, referral meeting and the IEP meeting, discussions about family updates, relevant family needs, medical updates and upcoming appointments including visits with other members of the team and attending /participating in medical appointments. Team treatment may be utilized by a Physical Therapist to participate in treatment planning activities with another member of the IFSP team
- Family Training Education and Support by a Physical Therapist includes utilizing a coaching approach with the parent or caregiver including:
 - Demonstrating, showing
 - Modeling, narrating, explaining, teaching
 - Observing parent or caregiver in the implementation/practice of strategy
 - Observing how child responded
 - Giving feedback to parent
 - Planning with the parent
 - Discussing interventions/strategies and the parent or caregiver's feedback about their implementation
 - Discussing parent/caregiver concerns related to their child's development, or disabilities
 - Discussing/planning carryover of strategies

- Family Training Education and Support by a Physical Therapist may be utilized for activities with the family such as discussions about medical needs, providing and reviewing relevant handouts, supporting the parent in activities such as scheduling an appointment for other services such as educational, social, and medical services; and supporting the parent to research a topic or diagnosis.
- A Physical Therapy Evaluation includes a summary of child's functioning and recommendations for strategies, services and supports. A PT Evaluation may not be billed at the same time as any other code. Other staff participating in the Physical Therapy Evaluation utilize code 990E (Evaluation) if using an SRF, or, if using a Session Note, additional staff are listed in the Additional Providers section.
- ➤ Billing practices regarding Physical Therapy Group are the same as Family Training Education and Support (Group) (See VI Family Training Education and Support)
- Feam Treatment is when two professionals are actively participating in the delivery of services during the same session for an individual child/family. A PT or PTA may use code T1024PGP when providing team treatment. Each member of the team uses the modifier representing their discipline and each may bill for the entire session. There must be a clear, clinical purpose for team treatment and role for each provider. Documentation for team treatment must support treatment by 2 individuals, providing two distinctly different services at the same time for the entire time billed and must include the parent's participation in the visit. Team treatment is not listed as a separate service on the service page of the IFSP but each discipline providing team treatment must be. Two PTs or a PTA and PT may not bill team treatment at the same time. A PT Evaluation may not occur as part of Team Treatment.
- ➤ Team treatment may be used when two members of a team provide an assessment at the same time (for example an RN and a SLP conduct a feeding team evaluation for a child with significant feeding issues; or a co-visit by a PT and OT to do a comprehensive assessment/consult to specifically look at motor functions for a child).

XII. PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES

Psychological Services:

- Administration of psychological and developmental tests, and other assessment procedures;
- Interpretation of assessment results;
- Obtaining, integrating, and interpreting information about child behavior, and child and family conditions related to learning, mental health, and development;
- Planning and management of a program of psychological services, including psychological counseling for children and parent(s), family counseling, consultation on child development, parent training, and education programs;
- Collaboration with the family, service coordinator and other early intervention service providers identified on an infant's or toddler's IFSP; and
- Family training, education and support provided to assist the family of an infant or toddler with a disability in understanding his or her needs related to development, cognition, behavior or social-emotional functioning and to enhance his or her development.

Procedure Codes listed below are for Psychological Services

Procedure	Description	Unit of	Max	Rate	Minimum	IFSP
Codes		Service	Units		Criteria	Category
T1027HP	Family Training	15 min	8	\$ 50.50	Psychologist	Psychology
	Education and					
	Support- Services by					
	a Psychologist					
T1027TG	Family Training	15 min	8	\$ 50.50	*See Below	Psychology
	Education and					
	Support-Services by					
	a Mental					
	Health/Behavioral					
	Health Professional					
T1024 HP	Team Treatment-	15 Min	8	\$ 50.50	Psychologist	Psychology
	Services by a					
	Psychologist					
T1024 TG	Team Treatment-	15 Min	8	\$ 50.50	* See Below	Psychology
	Services by a Mental					
	Health/Behavioral					
	Health Professional					

* Marriage & Family Therapist (MFT), Marriage & Family Therapist Associate (MFTA), Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC), Licensed Mental Health Counselor Associate (LMHCA), Master's in counseling, Master's in Psychology, BCBA and BCaBA

National Code Definition

T1027 Family training and counseling for child development, per 15 minute unit

T1024 Evaluation and treatment by an integrated specialty team to provide

coordinated care to multiple or severely handicapped children, per

encounter (one encounter is defined as one 15 minute unit)

Modifier Description(s)

TG Complex Level HP Doctoral Level

- Family Training Education and Support by a Marriage & Family Therapist (MFT), Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC), Master's in counseling, Master's in Psychology, BCBA and BCaBA or Psychologist includes treatment planning activities related to Psychological services such as IFSP development activities, annual or periodic review of outcomes, IFSP meetings to add, change or update services, discussions with parents about IFSP services, transition activities, such as participation in the transition conference, referral meeting and the IEP meeting, discussions about relevant family needs, family updates, medical updates and upcoming appointments including visits with other members of the team and attending /participating in related medical appointments. Team treatment may be utilized by the staff listed above to participate in treatment planning activities with another member of the IFSP team.
- Family Training Education and Support by a Marriage & Family Therapist (MFT), Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC), Master's in counseling, Master's in Psychology, BCBA and BCaBA, or Psychologist includes utilizing a coaching approach with the parent or caregiver including:
 - Demonstrating, showing
 - Modeling, narrating, explaining, teaching
 - Observing parent or caregiver in the implementation/practice of strategy
 - Observing how child responded
 - Giving feedback to parent
 - Planning with the parent
 - Discussing interventions/strategies and the parent or caregiver's feedback about their implementation
 - Discussing parent/caregiver concerns related to their child's development, or disabilities
 - Discussing/planning carryover of strategies

- Family Training Education and Support by a Marriage & Family Therapist (MFT), Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC), Master's in counseling, Master's in Psychology, BCBA and BCaBA or Psychologist may be utilized for activities with the family such as discussions about medical needs, providing and reviewing relevant handouts, supporting the parent in activities such as scheduling an appointments for other services such as educational, social and medical services; and supporting the parent to research a topic or diagnosis.
- ➤ Developmental testing by a Psychologist includes a summary of child's functioning and recommendations for strategies services and supports. Developmental Testing may not be billed at the same time as any other code. Other staff participating in the Developmental Testing utilize code 990E (Evaluation) on an SRF, or, if using a Session Note, additional staff are listed in the Additional Providers section.
- Feam Treatment is when two professionals are actively participating in the delivery of services during the same session for an individual child/family. A Psychologist should use code T1024HP, a Marriage & Family Therapist (MFT), Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC) and staff who have a Master's in Counseling, Master's in Psychology, BCBA or BCaBA should use code T1024TG when providing team treatment. Each member of the team uses the modifier representing their discipline and each may bill for the entire session. There must be a clear, clinical purpose for team treatment and role for each provider. Documentation for team treatment must support treatment by 2 individuals, providing two distinctly different services at the same time for the entire time billed and must include the parent's participation in the visit. Team treatment is not listed as a separate service on the service page of the IFSP but each discipline providing team treatment must be. A BCBA and a BCaBA may not bill Team Treatment at the same time. Team treatment cannot be billed by two staff from this category at the same time. Developmental Testing may not occur as part of Team Treatment.

XIII. SERVICE COORDINATION

Service Coordination may include the following activities:

- Coordinating the provision of EI services and other services (such as educational, social and medical services);
- Assisting parents of eligible children in gaining access to the EI services and other services identified in the IFSP;
- Facilitating, coordinating and monitoring the timely delivery of services on an ongoing basis:
- Coordinating evaluations and ongoing assessments;
- Assisting families in identifying available service providers and making referrals as needed; and
- Conducting IFSP activities as appropriate.

Procedure Codes listed below are for Service Coordination

Procedure Codes	Description	Unit of Service	Max Units	Rate	Minimum Criteria	IFSP Category
T1016	Case Management	15 min	10	\$28.73	Practitioner Level I	N/A
T016TF	Team Coordination (2 staff)	15 min	10	\$57.46	Practitioner Level I	N/A
T1016TG	Team Coordination (3 or more staff)	15 min	10	\$86.19	Practitioner Level II	N/A
H0046	Supervision	15 min	2	\$73.88	Practitioner Level I	N/A

^{*}The maximum units for Team Coordination with the parent present is 10 units; maximum units for Team Coordination parent not present is 2 units

National Code Definition

T1016	Case Management, each 15 minute
H0046	Mental Health Services, Not Otherwise Specified

Modifier Description(s)

TF	Intermediate Tech Level of Care 2 staff
TG	Complex/High Tech Level of Care 3 or more staff

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Billing Guidance

Service Coordination

- Each infant or toddler with a disability and the child's family must be provided with one Service Coordinator as soon as possible who is responsible for coordinating all services, coordinating with other agencies and persons, and serving as the single point of contact for carrying out Service Coordination activities. Service Coordination is an active, ongoing process. Service Coordination for the activities listed in this section which occur without the family utilize the codes listed in this section. If the activities listed occur with the family at a visit, they fall under the category Family Training Education Support and are billable as discipline specific codes.
- > Service Coordination should be provided as needed and is not required on the IFSP service page.
- ➤ In RI a Service Coordinator, depending on the individual's qualifications, may also provide direct services such as Family Training Education and Support. In addition, Service Coordination may be provided by members of the team other than the service coordinator, depending on need.
- ➤ Preparation for the exit Child Outcomes Summary process is part of service coordination for all children exiting EI. Up to 4 units of Service Coordination (in total per child) may be billed for activities related to the preparation of the exiting Child Outcome Summary (COS) process that do not occur directly with the family. Preparation activities may include:
 - Typing/writing a draft of COS B for the Part B Preschool Special Education Referral Meeting, or
 - o The organization and review of gathered information for age anchoring.

Note: Activities related to the COS process that occur with the family are reimbursable as part of Family Training, Education and Supports during a face-to-face visit.

- ➤ Written progress reports requested by outside parties such as Department of Children Youth and Families (DCYF), pediatricians, or specialty providers may be reimbursed up to 4 units of Service Coordination. Documentation must include who requested the information and why the information is needed.
- In order to be reimbursed for Service Coordination, an activity must be documented on an SRF/Session Note and meet the minimum time requirement of 15 minutes. Separate activities within the course of a day which are less than 15 minutes but are related to the same event or purpose for a child/family may be combined. The activity must result in an impact on services in the IFSP. Providers may combine units of service coordination provided by the same or different staff up to the maximum units allowed (10). Service

Coordination may not be billed by two separate staff for the same child at the same time. (See Team Coordination)

- > Service Coordination does not include: record review for quality improvement activities; data entry or clerical activity; unrequested written reports at the EI office, or single phone calls or a series of unrelated events occurring throughout the day less than 15 minutes.
- > Service Coordination may be utilized to review a record or conduct research for the purpose of treatment planning. Up to 4 units is allowed. Documentation must support treatment planning.
- Low-tech assistive technology supports include materials or items, created or adapted a by members of the IFSP team, that improve a child's functioning in, and/or access to, daily routines and activities. The time spent developing low-tech assistive technology supports is reimbursable.
 - If low-tech assistive technology supports are created with the family, during a visit, this time is reimbursable as part of the service being provided.
 - If low-tech assistive technology supports are created at the EI office, this time is reimbursable using code T1016 Service Coordination. The number of units for this activity is limited to 2.
- Activities occurring at the EI office related to assistive technology such as reviewing/researching products; coordination around purchasing; and vendor consultations are considered Service Coordination activities and are reimbursable using code T1016 Service Coordination.
- > Consultations with professionals by phone are considered service coordination.
- Conversations with parents by phone are considered service coordination.

Team Coordination

Team Coordination may include the following activities:

- Team planning for individualized interventions;
- Reviewing progress based on data;
- Working together as a team;
- Sharing information, strategies and interventions; and
- Participating in planned clinical conversations between members of the team which impact IFSP outcomes or strategies

- From Coordination provided without the family may be provided by the IFSP team. This includes membership on the evaluation team, and/or providing direct services or consultations listed on the IFSP and consultations to the IFSP team by other members the EI staff with discipline specific professional expertise.
- A Team Coordination meeting must be at least 15 minutes and must have an impact on the child's IFSP (i.e. outcomes or strategies). These are planned clinical conversations.
- ➤ The SRF/Session Note for team coordination should describe the discussion and indicate the results of the discussion (impact on the child's IFSP).
- Fram Coordination without the parent present is limited to 2 units per day.
- ➤ Teams may utilize Team Coordination T1016TF or T1016TG depending on the numbers of staff participating. Team Coordination is billed by child and by case complexity. One person utilizes code T0161TF and signs the SRF and other team members) must sign the SRF utilizing code 990 TC (Team Coordination) if using an SRF. When using a Session Note, additional staff are listed in the Additional Providers section. For T1016TG at least one Level II practitioner utilizes code T1016TG and signs the SRF/Session Note representing the meeting.
- ➤ Providers may bill Team Coordination for sharing, gathering/organizing assessment information for the Child Outcomes Summary process as part of transition.
- ➤ When an Early Intervention provider is providing services for a child from another EI program utilizing a contracted billing arrangement, Team Coordination between one EI provider and the other without the family is reimbursed utilizing codes T1016TF. The SRF/Session Note is billed by the original provider who reimburses the other contracted provider at the agreed upon rate.

- ➤ Team Coordination between EI providers from different agencies utilizing a contractual arrangement may occur for up to three staff using T1016TG.
- > Service Coordination may not be billed in combination with Team Coordination.
- ➤ Team Coordination does not mean supervision.
- ➤ Use Team Coordination code T1016TF or T1016TG (depending on the number of staff) to provide individualized intervention planning for a child in a group. Team Coordination does not include room set up; cleaning; or precutting art materials or theme-based planning. It does not include general debriefing after a group session. Team Coordination is individual planning for a specific child within the infant/toddler curriculum by the IFSP team/group team and includes the specialized support the child needs. The accompanying SRF/Session Note must be individualized for that specific child and summarize the discussion and plan for that child. The SRF/Session Note must also clearly reference the individualized IFSP outcomes being worked on. Example:

Team Coordin	nation Example:	
Team Coordin	Team Coordination (3 staff)	Team meets for 15 minutes to discuss the child's new ability to make a simple choice between 2 activities. However, transition from motor activity to quiet play has become much more difficult. Team discusses how to move communication to the next benchmark and also how to use an object board to help with this transition. SLP will coach family to use board during play time with Dad. Bill T1016TG for 15 minutes for this individual
		child only.

- ➤ Team Coordination for a child participating in a group occurs separately for each specific child as it occurs. This means more than one child may not be billed for Team Coordination at the same time. For example, if Team Coordination meetings occur for each child in a group which had six children, each child would be discussed for 15 minutes and a separate SRF/Session Notes describing each discussion would be submitted. (i.e. the team would have met totally for 90 minutes.)
- ➤ Team Coordination must represent at least 2 staff members in order to bill. One practitioner signs the SRF/Session Note listing the actual minutes of the Team Coordination meeting; other staff participating either sign the SRF utilizing code 990TC, or, if using a Session Note they must be listed as Additional Providers.
- ➤ Team Coordination is not reimbursable between a PTA and PT, OT and a COTA, and an SLPA and an SLP.
- > Team Coordination is not a service listed in the IFSP.

Supervision

Supervision includes:

For the purpose of Early Intervention, supervision is "reflective supervision", a relationship-based supervisory approach that supports various models of relationship-based service delivery. It fosters effective connections with parents, children, and colleagues and these enhanced connections lead to higher quality programs. In RI, the model for this supervision is an integrated approach combining mentoring and monitoring.

- In order to utilize code H0046 supervision must be related to an individual child/family. Supervision is billed per child. The EI supervisor must provide reflective supervision. Components of reflective supervision include regular scheduled meetings, a collaborative relational approach and an emphasis on reflection.
- ➤ Documentation on an SRF/Session Note should be maintained in the child's record and must consist of date of supervision, a brief summary of the discussion (including child's name), the length of time and the signatures of the supervisor with the person receiving supervision utilizing code 990S (Supervision) on an SRF. If using a Session Note, the person receiving supervision is listed in the Additional Providers section. The maximum allowed is 90 minutes per child per month.
- ➤ In exceptional circumstances supervision may occur prior to the IFSP. Adequate documentation on an SRF/Session Note must be provided.
- Reflective supervision does *not* include the following:
 - group discussions, including staff meetings;
 - agency operation or billing practices;
 - personnel/disciplinary actions;
 - observation by a supervisor in a home visit;
 - short (less than 15 minutes) unscheduled conversations between clinical supervisors and staff;
 - supervision needed to obtain or maintain certificate, license, or registration (for example, but not limited to PT supervision for PTA's, OT supervision for COTA, BCBA supervision of BCaBA and supervision to obtain a RI Early Intervention Certificate)

^{* &}quot;Reflective supervision builds staff members' skills in reflective practice. Reflective practice refers to a way of working that spans disciplines and encourages staff members to (a) consider the possible implications of their interventions while in the midst of their work; (b) slow down, filter their thoughts, and more wisely choose actions and words; (c) deepen their understanding of the contextual forces that affect their work; and (d) take time afterward to consider their work and the related experiences in a way that influences their next steps." *Reflective Supervision and Leadership in Infant and Early Childhood Programs* by Mary Claire Heffron and Trudi Murch.

XIV. SOCIAL WORK SERVICES

Social Work Services:

- Home visits to evaluate a child's living conditions and patterns of parent-child interaction:
- Social or emotional developmental screening and assessment of an infant or toddler within the family context;
- Individual and family-group counseling with parent(s) and other family members, and appropriate social skill-building activities with the infant or toddler and parent(s);
- Intervention to address those problems in a child's and family's living situation (home, community, and any other location where early intervention supports and services are provided) that affect the child's maximum utilization of early intervention supports and services;
- Identification, mobilization, and coordination of community resources and services to enable the child and family to receive maximum benefit from early intervention supports and services:
- Collaboration with the family, service coordinator and other early intervention service providers identified on an infant's or toddler's IFSP; and
- Family training, education and support provided to assist the family of an infant or toddler with a disability in understanding his or her functional developmental needs and to enhance his or her development.

Procedure Codes listed below are for Social Work Services

Procedure	Description	Unit of	Max	Rate	Minimum	IFSP
Codes		Service	Units		Criteria	Category
T1027AJ	Family Training Education	15 min	8	\$ 50.50		Social
	and Support- Services by a				LICSW**	Work
	Clinical Social Worker					
T1024AJ	Team Treatment-	15 min	8	\$ 50.50	LCSW*	Social
	Services by a Clinical Social				LICSW**	Work
	Worker					

^{*}Licensed Clinical Social Worker, **Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker

National Code Definition

T1027	Family training and counseling for child development, per 15 minute unit
T1024	Evaluation and treatment by an integrated specialty team to provide coordinated care to multiple or severely handicapped children, per encounter

Modifier Description

AJ Licensed Professional

- Family Training Education and Support by a Licensed Clinical Social Worker or Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker includes treatment planning activities related to Social Work services such as IFSP development activities, annual or periodic review of outcomes, discussions with parents about IFSP services; transition activities, such as participation in the transition conference, referral meeting and the IEP meeting; IFSP meetings to add, change or update services; discussions about relevant family needs, family updates, medical updates and upcoming appointments including visits with other members of the team and attending /participating in medical appointments. Team treatment may be utilized by the staff listed above to participate in treatment planning activities with another member of the IFSP team.
- ➤ Family Training Education and Support by Licensed Clinical Social Worker or Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker includes utilizing a coaching approach with the parent or caregiver including:
 - Demonstrating, showing
 - Modeling, narrating, explaining, teaching
 - Observing parent or caregiver in the implementation/practice of strategy
 - Observing how child responded
 - Giving feedback to parent
 - Planning with the parent
 - Discussing interventions/strategies and the parent or caregiver's feedback about their implementation
 - Discussing parent/caregiver concerns related to their child's development, or disabilities
 - Discussing/planning carryover of strategies
- Family Training Education and Support by Licensed Clinical Social Worker or Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker may be utilized for activities with the family such as discussions about medical needs, providing and reviewing relevant handouts, supporting the parent in activities such as scheduling an appointment for other services such as educational, social and medical services; and supporting the parent to research a topic or diagnosis.
- Feam Treatment is when two professionals are actively participating in the delivery of services during the same session for an individual child/family. An LICSW and LCSW may use code T1024AJ when providing team treatment. Each member of the team uses the modifier representing their discipline and each may bill for the entire session. There must be a clear, clinical purpose for team treatment and role for each provider. Documentation for team treatment must support treatment by 2 individuals, providing two distinctly different services at the same time for the entire time billed and must include the parent's participation in the visit. Team treatment is not listed as a separate service on the service page of the IFSP but each discipline providing team treatment must be. Two social workers may not bill team treatment at the same time.

XV. SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

Speech and Language Pathology Services:

- Screening, identification, assessment and intervention services to address the functional, developmental needs of an infant or toddler with a disability with an emphasis on communication skills, language and speech development, sign language and cued language training and oral motor functioning, including the identification of specific communication disorders;
- Referral for medical or other professional services necessary for the habilitation or rehabilitation of children with communicative or pharyngeal disorders and delays in development of communication skills'
- Provision of services for the habilitation, rehabilitation or prevention of communicative or language disorders and delays in development of communication skills'
- Collaboration with the family, service coordinator and other early intervention service providers identified on an infant's or toddler's IFSP; and
- Family training, education and support provided to assist the family of an infant or toddler with a disability in understanding his or her functional development needs and to enhance his or her development.

Procedure Codes listed below are for Speech-Language Pathology Services

Procedure Codes	Description	Unit of Service	Max Unit	Rate	Minimum Criteria	IFSP Category
0000		201 1100	S		91100110	outing 51
92523	Evaluation of speech sound	1	1	\$ 466.59	*Licensed	Speech
	production and			flat rate	SLP	Pathology
	expressive/receptive					
	language					
**92523 with	Evaluation of	1	1	\$ 233.29	*Licensed	Speech
modifier 52	expressive/receptive			flat rate	SLP	Pathology
(See below)	language only (abbreviated					
	procedure)					
92522	Evaluation of speech sound	1	1	\$ 233.29	*Licensed	Speech
				flat rate	SLP	Pathology
T1027GN	Family Training Education	15 min	8	\$ 50.50	*Licensed	Speech
	and Support-Services				SLP	Pathology
	provided by an SLP/SLPA				/SLPA	
S9446GN	Family Training Education	15min	8	\$ 23.33	*Licensed	Speech
	and Support-Speech				SLP/SLPA	Pathology
	Group- Services provided					
	by an SLP/SLPA					
T1024GN	Team Treatment-Services	15 min	8	\$ 50.50	*Licensed	Speech
* 1 . 1 . 1	provided by an SLP/SLPA				SLP/SLPA	Pathology

* Licensed Speech, Hearing and Language Pathologist/ Licensed Speech, Hearing and Language Pathologist Assistant

National Code Definition

92523	Evaluation of speech sound production (e.g. articulation, phonological process, apraxia, dysarthria), with evaluation of language comprehension and expression (e.g. receptive and expressive language)
**92523	Code 92523 represents two distinct evaluations. If only an evaluation for language comprehension and expression is provided, modifier 52 must be utilized (92523-52) to represent an abbreviated procedure and the rate is \$217.21
92522	Evaluation of speech sound production (e.g. articulation, phonological process, apraxia, dysarthria)
T1027	Family training and counseling for child development, per 15 minute unit
S9446	Patient education, not otherwise classified, non-physician provider, group, per session (one session is defined as one 15 minute unit)
T1024	Evaluation and treatment by an integrated specialty team to provide coordinated care to multiple or severely handicapped children, per encounter (one encounter is defined as one 15 minute unit)
	Modifier Description(s)

Modifier Description(s)

GN	Licensed SLP/SLPA
52	Abbreviated procedure

Billing Guidance

Family Training Education and Support by a Speech Therapist includes treatment planning activities related to Speech Language Pathology such as IFSP development activities, annual or periodic review of outcomes, IFSP meetings to add, change or update services, discussions with parents about IFSP services; transition activities, such as participation in the transition conference, referral meeting and the IEP meeting; discussions about relevant family needs, family updates, medical updates and upcoming appointments including visits with other members of the team; and attending /participating in medical appointments. Team treatment may be utilized by a Speech Therapist to participate in treatment planning activities with another member of the IFSP team.

- Family Training Education and Support by a Speech Pathologist includes utilizing a coaching approach with the parent or caregiver including:
 - Demonstrating, showing
 - Modeling, narrating, explaining, teaching
 - Observing parent or caregiver in the implementation/practice of strategy
 - Observing how child responded
 - Giving feedback to parent
 - Planning with the parent
 - Discussing interventions/strategies and the parent or caregiver's feedback about their implementation
 - Discussing parent/caregiver concerns related to their child's development, or disabilities
 - Discussing/planning carryover of strategies
- Family Training Education and Support by a Speech Pathologist may be utilized for activities with the family such as discussions about medical needs, providing and reviewing relevant handouts, supporting the parent in activities such as scheduling an appointment for other services such as educational, social and medical services; and supporting the parent to research a topic or diagnosis.
- A speech and language evaluation provides functional information regarding the child's communication and results in recommendations for strategies, services and supports. A Speech and Language Evaluation may not be billed at the same time as any other code. Other staff participating in the Speech and Language Evaluation utilize code 990E (Evaluation) on an SRF. If using a Session Note, additional staff are listed in the Additional Providers section.
- ➤ When utilizing code 92523, the SRF/Session Note must document that two distinct evaluations were provided; an evaluation of sound production as well as an evaluation of receptive and expressive language. Screenings or brief assessments are not considered an evaluation. If more than one session is required bill this code when both evaluations are complete.
- ➤ If two evaluations are not administered and only an evaluation of expressive and receptive language is conducted, use code 92523 with modifier 52 to indicate an abbreviated procedure. It is expected that due to the time factor in administering two evaluations and considering the age of the children in early intervention code 92523 with modifier 52 would be typically used rather than code 92523.
- ➤ Code 92522 is utilized for an evaluation of sound production only (e.g. Goldman-Fristoe Test of Articulation) and cannot be combined with code 92523.
- ➤ Billing practices regarding Speech and Language Therapy Group are the same as Family Training Education and Support (Group) (See VI. Family Training Education and Support)

- Feam Treatment is when two professionals are actively participating in the delivery of services during the same session for an individual child/family. An SLP or SLPA may use code T1024GN when providing team treatment with a team member who has a different discipline. Each member of the team uses the modifier representing their discipline and each may bill for the entire session. There must be a clear, clinical purpose for team treatment and role for each provider. Documentation for team treatment must support treatment by 2 individuals, providing two distinctly different services at the same time for the entire time billed and must include the parent's participation in the visit. Team Treatment is not listed as a separate service on the service page of the IFSP but each discipline providing team treatment must be. A Speech and Language Evaluation is not a part of Team Treatment.
- ➤ In cases where there are 2 SLPs on the child's IFSP, one with an area of specialty with Deaf and Hard of Hearing, team treatment by both SLPs is allowed. The purpose of the team treatment is to allow the specialty SLP to demonstrate specific techniques for the other SLP to incorporate into their treatment. It is expected that this instance of team treatment would occur on a limited basis. The SRF/Session Note should describe techniques demonstrated by the specialty SLP and practice of the techniques by the other SLP. The specialty SLP should use the T1024GN and the other SLP should use T1024 with no modifier. Team treatment by the non-specialty SLP must be recorded as FTC on the IFSP.
- ➤ Team treatment may be used when two members of a team provide an assessment at the same time (for example an RN and a SLP conduct a feeding team evaluation for a child with significant feeding issues; or a co-visit by a PT and OT to do a comprehensive assessment/consult to specifically look at motor functions for a child.)

XVI. TRANSPORTATION

Transportation Services

Transportation and related costs include the cost of travel (e.g., mileage, or travel by taxi, common carrier or other means) and other costs (e.g., tolls and parking expenses) necessary to enable an eligible child and the child's family to receive EI services.

Procedure Codes listed below are for Transportation and related costs

Procedure Codes	Description	Unit of Service	Max Units	Rate	Minimum Criteria	IFSP Category
T2004	Transportation	One	2	\$ 15.56	N/A	N/A
		way				

National Code Definition

T2004 Non-Emergency Transport. Commercial Carrier, Multi-Pass

- ➤ T2004 may be utilized to cover the cost of travel (taxi or other commercial method) for parent and child to participate in Early Intervention when no other method of transportation is available (including a bus pass) and there is documentation of a justified reason for the service not to be provided in the natural environment. Transportation must be arranged through the child's primary insurance if available. Providers may not bill for transportation if it is provided through the child's insurance. Transportation is a covered benefit for RIteCare members. Information regarding this benefit is available in the members handbook or online at www.nhpri.org, www.uhccommunityplan.com or www.nhpri.org, www.nhpri.or
- > Transportation must be indicated on an SRF, with accompanying service, or documented on a separate Session Note.
- It is not needed on the IFSP services page.
- This code does not cover staff travel expenses.

XVII. VISION SERVICES

Vision services

- Evaluation and assessment of visual functioning, including diagnosis and appraisal of specific visual disorders, delays, and abilities that effect early childhood development;
- Referral for medical or other professional services necessary for habilitation or rehabilitation of visual functioning disorders, or both;
- Communication skills training, orientation and mobility training for all environments, visual training, and additional training necessary to activate visual motor abilities;
- Collaboration with the family, service coordinator and other early intervention service providers identified on an infant's or toddler's IFSP; and
- Family training, education and support provided to assist the family of an infant or toddler with a disability in understanding his or her functional development needs and to enhance his or her development.

Procedure Codes listed below are for Vision Services

Procedure	Description	Unit of	Max	Rate	Minimum	IFSP
Codes		Service	Units		Criteria	Category
V2799	Vision service (e.g. orientation and mobility)	15 min	8	\$ 50.50	*See Below	Vision
T1024TLHO	Team Treatment	15 min	8	\$ 50.50	*See Below	Vision

^{*}Optometrist/Ophthalmologist Certified Orientation Mobility Specialist or Certified Special Educator-Visually Impaired.

National Code Definition

V2799	Vision Services, Miscellaneous
T1024	Evaluation and treatment by an integrated specialty team to provide coordinated care to multiple or severely handicapped children, per encounter
	Modifier Description
TL	EI/IFSP
НО	Master's Level

- ➤ Vision Services by an Optometrist/Ophthalmologist, Certified Orientation Mobility Specialist or Certified Special Educator-Visually Impaired, includes treatment planning activities related to Vision services such as IFSP development activities, annual or periodic review of outcomes, IFSP meetings to add, change or update services, discussions with parents about IFSP services; transition activities, such as participation in the transition conference, referral meeting and the IEP meeting; discussions about relevant family needs, family updates, medical updates, upcoming appointments including visits with other members of the team and attending /participating in medical appointments. Team treatment may be utilized by staff listed above to participate in treatment planning activities with another member of the IFSP team.
- ➤ Vision Services by an Optometrist/Ophthalmologist, Certified Orientation Mobility Specialist or Certified Special Educator-Visually Impaired includes utilizing a coaching approach with the parent or caregiver including:
 - Demonstrating, showing
 - Modeling, narrating, explaining, teaching
 - Observing parent or caregiver in the implementation/practice of strategy
 - Observing how child responded
 - Giving feedback to parent
 - Planning with the parent
 - Discussing interventions/strategies and the parent or caregiver's feedback about their implementation
 - Discussing parent/caregiver concerns related to their child's development, or disabilities
 - Discussing/planning carryover of strategies
- ➤ Vision Services by an Optometrist/Ophthalmologist, Certified Orientation Mobility Specialist or Certified Special Educator-Visually Impaired, may be utilized for activities with the family such as discussions about medical needs, providing and reviewing relevant handouts, supporting the parent in activities such as scheduling an appointment for other services such as educational, social and medical services; and supporting the parent to research a topic or diagnosis.
- Feam Treatment is when more than one professional is providing services during the same session for an individual child. A Certified Orientation Mobility Specialist or Certified Special Educator for the Visually Impaired may use T1024TLHO when providing team treatment. Each member of the team uses the modifier representing their discipline and each may bill for the entire session. There must be a clear, clinical purpose for team treatment and role for each provider. Documentation for team treatment must support treatment by 2 individuals, providing two distinctly different services at the same time for the entire time billed and must include the parent's participation in the visit. Team treatment is not listed as a separate service on the service page of the IFSP but each discipline providing team treatment should be.

>	When Team Treatment is provided by two vision professionals one utilizes Team Treatment T1024 with the appropriate modifier and the other utilizes code V2799.

ADDENDA

ADDENDUM A: EARLY INTERVENTION INSURANCE MANDATE

IX TITLE 27 Insurance

CHAPTER 27-18 Accident and Sickness Insurance Policies

SECTION 27-18-64

§ 27-18-64. Coverage for early intervention services

- (a) Every individual or group hospital or medical expense insurance policy or contract providing coverage for dependent children, delivered or renewed in this state on or after July 1, 2004, shall include coverage of early-intervention services which coverage shall take effect no later than January 1, 2005. Such coverage shall not be subject to deductibles and coinsurance factors. Any amount paid by an insurer under this section for a dependent child shall not be applied to any annual or lifetime maximum benefit contained in the policy or contract. For the purpose of this section, "early-intervention services" means, but is not limited to, speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, evaluation, case management, nutrition, service-plan development and review, nursing services, and assistive technology services and devices for dependents from birth to age three (3) who are certified by the executive office of health and human services as eligible for services under part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. § 1471 et seq.).
- (b) Insurers shall reimburse certified, early intervention providers, who are designated as such by the executive office of health and human services, for early intervention services as defined in this section at rates of reimbursement equal to, or greater than, the prevailing integrated state Medicaid rate for early intervention services as established by the executive office of health and human services.
- (c) This section shall not apply to insurance coverage providing benefits for: (1) Hospital confinement indemnity; (2) Disability income; (3) Accident only; (4) Long-term care; (5) Medicare supplement; (6) Limited-benefit health; (7) Specified disease indemnity; (8) Sickness or bodily injury or death by accident or both; and (9) Other limited-benefit policies.

History of Section.

(P.L. 2004, ch. 595, art. 22, § 1; P.L. 2004, ch. 598, § 2; P.L. 2005, ch. 97, § 1; P.L. 2005, ch. 99, § 1; P.L. 2008, ch. 475, § 81; P.L. 2015, ch. 141, art. 5, § 4; P.L. 2016, ch. 142, art. 7, § 1.)

ADDENDUM B: EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES CODES, UNITS, RATES

Code	Rate	Unit	Max	Minimum Criteria	When is This Used	IFSP
			Units			Category
T1023	Flat Rate	1	1	Practitioner Level I	Intake	N/A
	\$354.44					,
H2000	Flat Rate	1	1	Practitioner Level II	Comprehensive Multidisciplinary	N/A
	\$1064.36				Evaluation/Assessment	
T1023TL	Flat Rate	1	1	Practitioner Level I	Individual Family Service Plan Meeting	N/A
	\$54.44				(Initial)	
T5999	As billed	1		Practitioner Level II	Assistive Technology	Assistive
						Technology
V5008	\$46.66	15 Min	8	Practitioner Level II	Hearing Screening	Audiology
92557	\$50.50	15 Min	8	Licensed Audiologist	Comprehensive Audiometry Threshold	Audiology
					Evaluation	
V5010	\$46.66	15 Min	8	Licensed Audiologist	Assessment for Hearing Aid(s)	Audiology
T1027	\$50.50	15 Min	8	Practitioner Level II*	Family Training Education and Support	FTC
T1027TD					(Individual)	Nursing
T1027AE						Nutrition
T1027TG						Psychology
T1027AJ						Psychology
T1027TGHO						Social Work
T1027HP	\$50.50			Practitioner Level II		Psychology
T1027HN	\$41.20	15 Min	8	Practitioner Level I		FTC
S9446TF	\$23.33	15 Min	8	Practitioner Level I	Family Training Education and Support	FTC
	7=0.00				(Group)	
S9446TG	\$29.89	15 Min	8	Practitioner Level II	Family Training Education and Support	FTC
					(Group) Intensive (3 Staff)	
S9446	\$23.33	15Min	10	Practitioner Level II	Family Training Education and Support-	FTC
	7-5:55				Parent Education (Group)	
T1027GO	\$50.50	15 Min	8	Licensed OT/COTA	Individual OT	ОТ
S9446GO	\$23.33	15 Min	8		Group OT	ОТ
97165	\$233.29	1	1	Licensed OT	OT Evaluation Low Complexity	ОТ
37103	Flat Rate	_	1	Licensed O1	O' Evaluation Low Complexity	
97166	\$233.29	1	1	Licensed OT	OT Evaluation Moderate Complexity	ОТ
37100	Flat Rate	_	1	Licensed O1	Or Evaluation Moderate complexity	
97167	\$233.29	1	1	Licensed OT	OT Evaluation High Complexity	ОТ
37107	Flat Rate	_	1	Licensed O1	O' Evaluation riigh complexity	
97168	\$233.29	1	1	Licensed OT	OT Reevaluation	ОТ
37100	Flat Rate	1	1	Licensed O1	OT Reevaluation	
T1027GP	\$50.50	15 Min	8	Licensed PT/PTA	Individual PT	PT
S9446GP	\$23.33	15 Min	8	Licensed FI/FIA	Group PT	PT
97161	\$233.29			Licensed PT	PT Evaluation Low Complexity	PT
3/101	Flat Rate	1	1	Licenseu PI	F i Evaluation Low Complexity	"
07162	\$233.29	1	1	Liconcod DT	DT Evaluation Madarata Carrallavity	DT
97162	· ·	1	1	Licensed PT	PT Evaluation Moderate Complexity	PT
07162	Flat Rate	1	1	Lineman I DT	DT Frankration With County 1	DT
97163	\$233.29	1	1	Licensed PT	PT Evaluation High Complexity	PT
	Flat Rate	<u> </u>	1			<u> </u>
97164	\$233.29	1	1	Licensed PT	PT Reevaluation	PT
	Flat Rate		1			
T1027GN	\$50.50	15 Min	8	Licensed SLP/SLPA	Individual SLP	Speech
S9446GN	\$23.33	15 Min	8		Group SLP	Speech
92523	\$466.59	1	1	Licensed SLP	Evaluation of speech sound	Speech
	Flat Rate				production with an eval of language	
					comprehension and expressive lang.	

Code	Rate	Unit	Max Units	Minimum Criteria	When is This Used	IFSP Category
92523-52	\$233.29 Flat Rate	1	1	Licensed SLP	Evaluation of language comprehension and expressive language only	Speech
92522	\$233.29 Flat Rate	1	1	Licensed SLP	Evaluation of speech sound production	Speech
T1013	\$27.48	15	16	N/A	Interpretation	N/A
T1013TL	\$27.48	15	16	N/A	Translation	N/A
T2004	\$15.56	1 Way	2	N/A	Transportation	N/A
T1016	\$28.73	15 Min	10	Practitioner Level I	Service Coordination	N/A
T1016TF	\$57.46	15 Min	10*	Practitioner Level I	Team Coordination Moderate Level (2 Staff) * 10 units-parent present 2 units parent not present	N/A
T1016TG	\$86.19	15 Min	10*	Practitioner Level I	Team Coordination Complex Level (3 Staff – 2 or more professionals) * 10 units-parent present 2 units parent not present	N/A
H0046	\$73.88	15 Min	2	Practitioner Level I	Supervision	N/A
T1024 T1024TD T1024AE T1024TG T1024AJ T1024TGHO T1024GO T1024GP T1024GN T1024TLHO T1024HP	\$50.50 \$50.50	15 Min	8	Practitioner Level II Practitioner Level II	Team Treatment (two professionals providing distinctly different services for a clinical purpose during the same session, at the same time, for the same child/family.	Team Treatment does not need to be separately listed on the IFSP but individual services must be
	4	1-1-1				
T1024HN V2799	\$41.20 \$50.50	15 Min 15 Min	8	Practitioner Level I Certified Mobility Specialist/Special educator for the blind-partially sighted	Vision Service	Vision

Family Education Training and Support T1027 (use modifiers as listed)*

No modifier: Certified Educator, Master's in Ed. or related field Nurse (TD), Nutritionist/Dietitian (AE), Psychologist (HP), Marriage & Family Therapist/ Licensed Mental Health Counselor/ Master's in Psychology/ Master's in Counseling/ BCBA/ BCaBA (TG), LICSW/ LCSW (AJ), Teacher of the Deaf (TGHO), Bachelor's Level (HN), PT/PTA (GP), OT/COTA (GO), SLP/SLPA (GN)

Team Treatment T1024 (use modifiers as listed)*

No modifier: Certified Educator, Master's in Ed. or related field Nurse (TD), Nutritionist/Dietitian (AE), Psychologist (HP), Marriage & Family Therapist/ Licensed Mental Health Counselor/ Master's in Psychology/ Master's in Counseling/ BCBA/ BCBA (TG), LICSW/ LCSW (AJ), Teacher of the Deaf (TGHO), Bachelor's Level (HN), PT/PTA (GP), OT/COTA (GO), SLP/SLPA (GN), Certified Mobility Specialist or Special Educator for the blind-partially sighted (TLHO)

ADDENDUM C: SERVICES RENDERED FORM

Last Name	First Name	MI	DOB	ID		
Service Date	Service Coor	dinator	Insura	nce Coverage Cha	ange 🗌 Yes	□ No
Center Based Childcare Community El Group in Cor Home Office or n/a	☐ Telehea☐ Telehea☐ Telehea☐ Virtual-☐ Virtual-☐ Control ☐ Contro	olth- Childcare olth- Communit olth- Home (Ph · Childcare · Community · Home	ty (Phone Only		ncelation nc. < 24 hrs pt. / No	Timely Service Status Only complete for a first service Timely Service Completed Untimely Service - Family Issue Untimely Service - Provider Issue
Important updat	es since our last v	isit (medica	l/health up	ndate, significant e	vents, etc.):	
Vellect ou strat	egies/information p	pi oviueu at i	rası visil di	ia aescribe brodie	iss lowards	IFSF Outcomes:
Outcomes addre	essed today:					
Outcomes addre	essed today:					
	-					
	ies addressed duri				ing 🗌 dressin	g □meals □play
Routines/activit	-				ing □dressin	g □meals □play
Routines/activit	ies addressed duri munity bath nap	p/bedtime ver by: ref	hanging out flecting/disc	other	observing pa	rent/caregiver/child
Routines/activit Outside Ocom Provider suppor demonstrating	ies addressed duri munity □bath □nap	p/bedtime ver by: ref	hanging out flecting/disc	other	observing pa	rent/caregiver/child
Routines/activit	ies addressed duri munity bath nap	p/bedtime ver by: ref	hanging out flecting/disc	other	observing pa	rent/caregiver/child
Routines/activit Outside Com Provider suppor demonstrating Describe briefty:	ies addressed duri munity bath nap ted parent/caregiv activity to parent/ca	p/bedtime	hanging out flecting/disc roviding stra	other ussing/planning detegies/information/	observing pairesources	rent/caregiver/child other
Routines/activit Outside Com Provider suppor demonstrating Describe briefty: Parent/caregive	ies addressed duri munity bath nap	p/bedtime ref	hanging out flecting/disc roviding stra discussing/j	ussing/planning ategies/information/	observing par resources	rent/caregiver/child other
Routines/activit Outside Com Provider suppor demonstrating Describe briefty: Parent/caregive demonstrating	ies addressed duri munity bath nap ted parent/caregiv activity to parent/ca er participated by: [p/bedtime ref	hanging out flecting/disc roviding stra discussing/j	ussing/planning ategies/information/	observing par resources	rent/caregiver/child other
Routines/activit outside ocom Provider suppor demonstrating Describe briefty: demonstrating Describe briefty (ies addressed duri munity bath nap ted parent/caregiv activity to parent/ca er participated by: [activity to provider [optional):	p/bedtime ref	hanging out flecting/disc roviding stra discussing/j	ussing/planning ategies/information/	observing par resources	rent/caregiver/child other
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Routines/activit Outside Com Provider suppor demonstrating Describe briefty: demonstrating Describe briefty (Plan for betwee	ies addressed duri munity bath nap rted parent/caregiv activity to parent/ca er participated by: [activity to provider [optional]:	p/bedtime ref	hanging out flecting/disc roviding stra discussing/j	ussing/planning ategies/information/	observing par resources	rent/caregiver/child other
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ADDENDUM D: MEDICAID PROVIDER INFORMATION



Gainwell Technologies is the fiscal agent for the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) and its Medicaid Program, and as the fiscal agent for EOHHS, is responsible for provider enrollment, claims processing and reconciliation.

Gainwell Technologies can be reached by calling:

- **784-8100 for local and long-distance calls
- **1-800-964-6211 for in-state toll calls or border community calls

Early Intervention Agencies can find the information they need to conduct business with RI Medicaid using the links below. For general information visit: www.eohhs.ri.gov.

Provider Enrollment

- Provider enrollment is completed electronically through the RI Healthcare Portal at https://riproviderportal.org
- Step by step instructions are found on the homepage of the RI Healthcare Portal.
- For detailed information on the enrollment process, visit the Provider Enrollment webpage at: https://eohhs.ri.gov/providers-partners/provider-enrollment
- To view the Provider Agreement, and to access the Electronic Funds Transfer form (EFT) or the W-9 form, visit the Provider Enrollment page at: https://eohhs.ri.gov/providers-partners/provider-enrollment
- Enrollment utilizes the National Provider Identifier (NPI) number assigned by the NPI Enumerator.
- The National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES) is the contractor hired by CMS to assign and process the NPIs, to ensure the uniqueness of the health care provider, and generate the NPIs. Providers can apply at the following website: https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov/NPPES/Welcome.do

Enrolling as Trading Partner

- Each billing provider, clearinghouse, or billing service that directly exchanges electronic data with Gainwell Technologies **must** enroll as a Trading Partner.
- Trading Partner enrollment is completed through the RI Healthcare Portal at https://riproviderportal.org
- Step by step instructions are included on the homepage of the RI Healthcare Portal.
- Providers may review the Trading Partner agreement form on the homepage of the RI Healthcare Portal.
- Once enrollment is completed, the provider will be assigned a Trading Partner identification number (TPID).

 This TPID must be registered in the RI Healthcare Portal. Registration instructions are located on the Healthcare Portal resource page at: https://eohhs.ri.gov/providers-partners/healthcare-portal

Eligibility Verification

There are two processes for Medicaid Providers to verify recipient Medicaid eligibility. These include:

- Verification of eligibility through the Healthcare Portal
 - Registered Trading Partners can access eligibility information for RI Medicaid beneficiaries 24 hours per day/7 days per week.
 - o By selecting the eligibility tab, benefit details are displayed by searching with the individuals Medicaid Identification Number (MID) and dates of service.
 - o The web portal generates an enrollment verification number for that inquiry.
 - o Early Intervention Agencies should maintain this verification number.
 - Recipients who are eligible for Early Intervention services will have an eligibility description as Categorically Needy, Medically Needy or Early Intervention Benefits only.
- Contact the Customer Service Help Desk (CSHD) managed by Gainwell Technologies.
 - o To verify eligibility through the CSHD, an Early Intervention Agency will need the NPI, the dates of service being verified, (up to 365 days from date of service), and the recipient's Medicaid Identification Number (MID).
 - o To contact the CSHD:
 - CSHD allows providers 5 transactions per phone call
 - Call 1-401-784-8100 for local or long-distance calls
 - Call 1-800-964-6211 for in-state toll or border state community calls

Other Healthcare Portal Services

Providers may also access the following information through the Healthcare Portal:

- Claim Status (the information contained on the Remittance Advice, which is processed two times a month)
- Prior Authorization Status
- Remittance Advice Amount and Remittance Advices

ADDENDUM E: SUBMITTING CLAIMS TO RI MEDICAID

Electronic Submission of Claims

Electronic billing of claims is the preferred method.

- No paper claim forms needed
- No original signature required
- Faster more efficient processing

To expedite submission of electronic claims, Gainwell Technologies provides free, HIPAA compliant software: Provider Electronic Solutions (PES)

- The software is available for download on the PES webpage found at: https://eohhs.ri.gov/providers-partners/billing-and-claims/provider-electronic-solutions-pes-software
- Installation instructions are also found on this page.

Paper Claims

In the event that a paper claim must be submitted, providers must use the CMS 1500 claim form (Version 02/12).

Instructions for completing the form are found at:

https://eohhs.ri.gov/providers-partners/billing-and-claims/claims-processing

Note: If client is insured by a self-funded insurance plan and denial is received, the Early Intervention Agency may send to Gainwell Technologies for payment. Submit claim on paper with the EOB from the primary insurance or electronically indicating that it is a self-funded plan.

Frequently Asked Questions:

How to determine if patient has met the maximum benefit allowed?

• Typically, the EOB from the primary insurance will deny claims with an EOB that states recipient has reached their maximum benefit allowed.

What to do when you think a claim has been processed in error?

- If you can correct the error, then the claim can be resubmitted
- If you need assistance understanding a denial reason then contact our Customer Service Help Desk at 784-8100 for local or long-distance calls or call 1-800-964-6211 for in-state toll or border state community calls

When can claims be sent to Gainwell Technologies for payment?

 After the primary insurance has denied a claim, has made a partial payment, or the maximum benefit has been reached. What does Gainwell Technologies require from the EI providers to "prove" that the commercial carrier does not cover these benefits? (either as not included in benefit package or as patient has already met their maximum)

- If submitting claims on paper to Gainwell Technologies then the EOB from the primary carrier must be included or include the Third Party Insurer Coordination of Benefits Form indicating the maximum benefit has been reached or that the primary insurance does not cover EI benefits.
- If submitting electronically then the provider must code the claim to indicate what the primary insurance has done: denied the claim, made a payment, maximum benefit, non-covered, self-funded, etc.

Gainwell Technologies DENIALS PAYMENT PROCESS

In order to reduce the turnaround time for claims you send to Gainwell Technologies, please bill the following scenarios electronically:

- Self-Insured (No EI benefit)
- Benefits Exhausted

When creating the claim in the Gainwell Technologies Provider Electronic Solutions software, check Yes on Header 3 to indicate the client has other insurance. Complete the Policy Holder Information on the Other Insurance (OI) Tab. On the Other Insurance Adjustment (OI ADJ) Tab, see the table below for the appropriate codes to use for the Adjustment Group and Reason codes. If using software other than PES, please forward this information to your software vendor.

	Adjustment Group Code	Adjustment Reason Code
Self-Insured	PR – Patient Responsibility	96 – Non Covered Charges
Benefits Exhausted	PR – Patient Responsibility	119 – Benefits Maximum for
		this time period or occurrence
		has been reached

If you have any questions please feel free to call Karen Murphy at (571) 348-5933 or email karen.murphy3@gainwelltechnologies.com

THIRD PARTY INSURANCE COORDINATION OF BENEFITS

EARLY INTERVENTI	ON		Date:		
Provider ID	Prov	ider Name			
Patient Name:	Patient MID	Dates of Service	Procedure Cod	le(s)	
Name of Primary Comr		Policy Holder Policy Holder		Policy Number:	
Primary Comme Employer (throuSecondary Com Employer (throu	ercial Insurer Does Not Cove agh whom insurance is provident mercial Insurer Does Not cove agh whom insurance is provident	led): Ex	xplain:xplain:		
I certify that to the best insurance policy as doc	of my knowledge, I have det	Agency Confirmation Of Denied Servermined that the EI services are not c		efits of this commercial	
Name: EITPL 1.00 (January 2005		_ Signature:		Date:	

ADDENDUM F: HEALTH PLAN CONTACTS FOR EI PROVIDERS

Some insurance companies have provided a specific provider representative for Early Intervention providers:

Medicaid-Fee for Service: Gainwell Technologies

Karen Murphy	(571) 348-5933	karen.murphy3@gainwelltechnologies.com
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Medicaid-RIteCare and Commercial: Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island

Provider Claims Service Department Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Direct Line 1(800) 963-1001

The Provider Services call center serves as the first line of contact for providers to call with non-clinical inquiries, questions, and complaints for which they require assistance. The call center responds to questions related to member eligibility, benefits, claim status, claim adjustments, appeals, etc. Provider Services also educates providers on the resources available to them on the Neighborhood website such as the provider manual, payment policies and forms.

For escalated issues not resolved through Provider Services, providers can contact Provider Relations:

Primary Contact	James Laurent	401-889-4885	jlaurent@nhpri.org
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Medicaid-RIteCare and Commercial: UnitedHealthcare of New England

For any claim or eligibility issue, providers should first call the Provider Service line. If an issue is not resolved by the Provider Service line, the Provider Escalation Line can be used. When both these means cannot resolve an issue, the Primary Contact should be called.

Provider Services (Claims Related Issues)		(877) 842-3210	
Provider Escalation	Line	(860) 702-6133	
Primary Contact	Sarah Coutu	(401)732-7436	sarah.coutu@uhc.com

Medicaid-RIteCare and Commercial: Tufts Health Plan

For any claim or eligibility issue, providers should first call Tufts Health Plan Provider Services. If the issue is not resolved, the primary contact should be called.

Provider Services		Tufts Health Plan Public (888) 301-4093		Tufts Health Plan Public (888) 301-4093	
		Harvard Pilgrim Health Care (HPHC) (800)708-4414			
Primary Contact	Padrick	(617) 972-9400	Padrick.shaughnessy@point32health.org		
	Shaughnessey	Extension 84235			

Commercial: Blue Cross Blue Shield of Rhode Island

Provider Service Center (Claims Related Issues)		(401) 274-4848 or 1-800-230-9050	
Provider Relations Box		ProviderRelations@bcbsri.org	
Primary Contact	Marisa Calicchia	(401) 459-5600	Marisa.Calicchia@bcbsri.org

*Communications from EOHHS regarding coding, policy updates, state mandates and general notifications about Early Intervention please reach out to payment_integrity_mailbox@bcbsri.org payment_integrity_mailbox@bcbsri.org.