

Wyoming EqualityCare Policy for Physical Rehabilitation Services

Physical rehabilitation services may be provided in an inpatient rehabilitation facility or a hospital-based rehabilitation unit.

- Specialized intensive inpatient rehabilitation services for spinal cord dysfunction and traumatic brain injury are available through a participating in-state facility and out-of-state facilities.
- Outpatient rehabilitation services are provided by Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facilities.

Admission Certification is required.

A review of medical necessity is required for admission to inpatient rehabilitation as follows:

1. Admissions involving transfers from an acute hospital setting to an external rehabilitation facility or unit.
2. Admissions from home, long-term care or other living arrangements.

When the review is completed and the medical necessity requirements are met, an admission certification number will be issued to the facility. Continued stay reviews are required biweekly or at the discretion of the reviewer.

**** PLEASE NOTE:** Admissions from an acute care hospital unit to rehabilitation services within the same facility do not require a review of medical necessity or admission certification. The facility will be reimbursed the level of care at admission for the entire stay. ******

Medical Necessity

The general threshold recognized by CMS for establishing the need for inpatient rehabilitation is the need for “rehabilitation services (physical and/or occupational therapy or other skilled rehabilitative modalities) that are provided at least three hours a day and 5 days a week.”

To demonstrate medical necessity, documentation of the following is required:

1. Physician referral.
2. Rehabilitation consultation by a licensed doctor of medicine or osteopathy. Credentials or expertise in rehabilitation medicine is preferred but not required.
3. Diagnosis appropriate for inpatient physical rehabilitation.
4. Stable medical status to allow active participation in three hours of therapy five days per week.
5. Need for close daily medical supervision by physician and 24-hour rehab nursing.
6. Rancho Los Amigos Scale: Level 5.
7. Evidence of potential to show significant functional improvement.
8. Treatment plan developed by a multidisciplinary team with signed approval of supervising physician. Minimal components of the rehab team are a physician, rehab nursing and occupational and/or physical therapist.