



## Clinical Medical Policy Extended Home Care – Skilled Hours

### **Benefit Coverage:**

Approval of skilled home care services is based upon review of medical necessity.

### **Description:**

Extended home care is scheduled as “block hours” as opposed to “visits”, and is utilized to deliver medically necessary care which cannot be performed in a standard home care visit.

### **Coverage Determination:**

Prior authorization and periodic medical review is required.

The service is intended for members who have complex medical conditions or disabilities and for very medically fragile children. Extended Home Care Services are used for the following purposes:

- additional teaching & demonstration in the home,
- evaluation and recommendations for care in the home, and
- supplemental support to provide the family with nursing care to fulfill the medical care plan.

Upon receiving orders from a physician, the contracted Neighborhood Home Care Agency submits the “Neighborhood Extended Home Care Authorization Request” form, indicating required services for the specific member.

Rhody Health Partners’ members may be eligible for waiver services that can serve as an adjunct to needed home care services in the home.

**Home Health Aide Block Hours may be considered as an alternative for children with complex medical conditions, to support the plan of care, when there are no skilled needs. Refer to “Clinical Medical Policy Extended Home Care – HHA Hours.”**

### **Criteria:**

Based on documentation received on the Neighborhood Home Care Prior Authorization Request for Skilled Block Hours, the following categories are evaluated for care required and time required to complete the care, with points being assigned based on severity:

Respiratory/Cardiac Status	Skin Care
Meds/IVs	Nutrition
Elimination	Neurological

All points are summarized to determine number of hours member is eligible to receive. The Neighborhood “Extended Home Care Guidelines – Skilled Nursing” are utilized to determine this information.

### **Exclusions:**

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## Clinical Medical Policy Extended Home Care – Skilled Hours

Neighborhood does not cover respite care, relief care or daycare for members.

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***CMP Number:*** CMP-022.00

***CMP Cross Reference:***

***References:***

Tennessee Medicaid Program (TennCare) <http://state.tn.us/tenncare/members/TCbenefits1.htm>

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