

Effective January 1, 2021 - Updated Payment Policy for Speech Therapy Services

November 1, 2020

Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island (Neighborhood) has revised its payment policy for speech therapy services. Rehabilitative speech services are covered for members with neurodevelopmental disorders when recommended by a medical provider to address a specific condition, deficit, or dysfunction. The payment policy for Speech Therapy Services can be found on the Neighborhood website and will be updated prior to January 1, 2021 to reflect the changes below.

Medicaid

As a reminder, effective October 1, 2020, the following changes took place for Medicaid members requiring speech therapy services:

- Speech therapy is covered without a prior authorization and is limited to 24 sessions per rolling year.

Similar coverage limitations will take place for INTEGRITY and Commercial members, effective January 1, 2021. See below for more details:

INTEGRITY

Effective January 1, 2021, the following will take place for INTEGRITY members requiring speech therapy services:

- Speech therapy is covered without prior authorization for 24 sessions per calendar year. Any additional sessions will require a prior authorization.

Commercial

Effective January 1, 2021, the following will take place for Commercial members requiring speech therapy services:

- Speech therapy is covered without prior authorization and is limited to 24 sessions per calendar/plan year.

All Neighborhood payment policies can be found on the Neighborhood website in the [Billing Guidelines and Payment Policies](#) section for providers.