

HOME DIALYSIS - ATTENDANT

BENEFITS AND LIMITATIONS

Under special circumstances, Medicaid may pay an attendant to perform home dialysis for a recipient. The following conditions apply:

- Home dialysis shall be provided only to a recipient who has been diagnosed by a physician as suffering from chronic end stage renal disease.
- Medical necessity and appropriateness of the services shall be subject to review by the designated review organization.
- In all cases where feasible, a member of the recipient's household shall be trained as the attendant.

When a person who is not a member of the recipient's family must be trained as a dialysis attendant, the following conditions apply:

- The attendant must be trained with the recipient at a certified dialysis center.
- The attendant must work under the supervision of a local R.N. or the dialysis training center, whichever is appropriate.
- The attendant must have a contract with the Department. Arrangements for a contract may be made by contacting Joyce DeCunzo, Social and Rehabilitation Services, P.O. Box 4210, Helena, MT, 59604, (406) 444-4540.

REIMBURSEMENT

Payment to a non-related individual for home dialysis attendant services will be negotiated between the Department and the attendant. For the period July 1, 1986 through June 30, 1987 the rate is \$6.35 per hour. Payment is allowed only for time spent with the recipient.

Payment is not allowed for travel to and from the recipient's home. Payment at the hourly rate is not available to the attendant while in training. Travel and per diem are available to the attendant for training at the Department's fee schedule. Contact your local county welfare director to make arrangements for this reimbursement **before** the travel occurs.

Claim forms for payment must be submitted within 180 days of service.

The correct procedure code for billing is Z0565. This code is entered in Item 24C of the HCFA 1500 claim form.