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Template that Can Be Used to Develop a State Proposal

Creation of Separate Recognition of Complex Rehab Technology (CRT) At State Level

Background:

Complex Rehab Technology (CRT) products and associated services include medically necessary, individually configured devices that require evaluation, configuration, fitting, adjustment or programming. These products and services are designed to meet the specific and unique medical, physical, and functional needs of an individual with a primary diagnosis resulting from a congenital disorder, progressive or degenerative neuromuscular disease, or from certain types of injury or trauma. CRT products include individually configured manual wheelchair systems, power wheelchair systems, adaptive seating systems, alternative positioning systems and other mobility devices.

Significant challenges threaten access to CRT products and the supporting services that are used by individuals with disabilities and medical conditions. These individuals deal with physical, functional and cognitive challenges every day and utilize CRT to maximize their function and minimize the extent and costs of their medical care. A primary factor responsible for these challenges is that these individually configurable products are classified by Medicaid within the broad category of Durable Medical Equipment (DME). Inclusion in the DME benefit category prevents adequate differentiation when it comes to establishing coding, coverage, payment policies, and quality standards for the range of CRT. In order to rectify this fundamental problem, separate recognition is required to recognize the specialized nature of CRT products, the required supporting processes and services, the credentials and competencies needed by the providing companies and critical staff, and the related costs involved.

Required State Actions:

- 1.) Define Complex Rehab Technology-
 - a. Complex Rehab Technology (CRT) is individually-configured products that: (i) are designed for qualified individuals to meet their specific and unique medical, physical and functional needs and capacities for basic activities of daily living and instrumental activities of daily living; (ii) are primarily used to serve a medical purpose; and (iii) generally are not useful to a person in the absence of illness or injury. CRT requires services including, but not limited to, evaluating the individual's needs and capacities and configuring, fitting, programming, adjusting or adapting that particular technology.
 - b. The term "individually-configured" means when a device has a combination of features, adjustments, or modifications specific to an individual that a qualified accredited supplier provides by measuring, fitting, programming, adjusting, or adapting the device, as appropriate, so that the device is consistent with an assessment or evaluation of the individual by an appropriate clinician and consistent with the individual's medical condition, physical and functional needs and capacities, body size, period of need, and intended use.

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- c. The term “qualified individual” means an individual with certain physical and functional needs and capacities and certain medical conditions that shall include, but are not limited to, the following congenital disorders, progressive or degenerative neuromuscular diseases, and injuries or trauma that result in significant physical or functional needs and capacities: spinal cord injury, traumatic brain injury, cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, spina bifida, osteogenesis imperfecta, arthrogryposis, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, multiple sclerosis, demyelinating disease, myelopathy, myopathy, progressive muscular atrophy, anterior horn cell disease, post-polio syndrome, cerebellar degeneration, dystonia, Huntington’s disease, spinocerebellar disease, and certain types of amputation, and paralysis or paresis that result in significant physical or functional needs and capacities.

2.) Identify and segregate CRT HCPCS Codes-

There are two groups of HCPCS codes that include CRT products. There are “pure” codes that contain exclusively CRT products and there are “mixed” codes that contain both CRT and standard products:

- a. Pure CRT Codes: These HCPCS codes contain 100% CRT products: E0637, E0638, E0641, E0642, E0986, E1002, E1003, E1004, E1005, E1006, E1007, E1008, E1009, E1010, E1011, E1014, E1037, E1161, E1220, E1228, E1229, E1231, E1232, E1233, E1234, E1235, E1236, E1237, E1238, E1239 E2209, E2291, E2292, E2293, E2294, E2295, E2300, E2301, E2310, E2311, E2312, E2313, E2321, E2322, E2323, E2324, E2325, E2326, E2327, E2328, E2329, E2330, E2331, E2351, E2373, E2374, E2376, E2377, E2609, E2610, E2617, E8000, E8001, E8002, K0005, K0835, K0836, K0837, K0838, K0839, K0840, K0841, K0842, K0843, K0848, K0849, K0850, K0851, K0852, K0853, K0854, K0855, K0856, K0857, K0858, K0859, K0860, K0861, K0862, K0863, K0864, K0868, K0869, K0870, K0871, K0877, K0878, K0879, K0880, K0884, K0885, K0886, K0890, K0891, and K0898.
- b. Mixed CRT Codes: These HCPCS codes contain a mix of CRT products and standard mobility and accessory products: E0950, E0951, E0952, E0955, E0956, E0957, E0960, E0967, E0978, E0990, E1015, E1016, E1028, E101029, E1030, E2205, E2208, E2231, E2368, E2369, E2370, E2605, E2606, E2607, E2608, E2613, E2614, E2615, E2616, E2620, E2621, E2624, E2625, K0004, K0009, K0040, K0108, and K0669.

3.) Establish Medicaid Beneficiary and Program Safeguards for CRT-

- a. Only accredited CRT suppliers can provide CRT products.
- b. An accredited CRT supplier must have at least one qualified W-2 employed CRT professional for each location to analyze the needs and capacities of qualified individuals, assist in selecting appropriate covered CRT items for such needs and capacities, and provide training in the use of the selected covered CRT items. The term “qualified CRT professional” means an individual who is certified by the Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America as an assistive technology professional (ATP).
- c. An accredited CRT supplier must have the capability to provide service and repair for all CRT products it sells.
- d. An accredited CRT supplier must meet the quality standards established for durable medical equipment suppliers under the Medicare program.

4.) Modify Current Coverage Policies-

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- a. (Are there any issues with application of the Medicare In-The-Home Restriction?)
- b. (Are there any coverage limitations based on age?)
- c. (Are there any CRT products not covered?)
- d. (Other coverage issues?)

5.) Modify Current Payment Policies-

- a. Recognize the service costs or providing CRT. The services provided by the CRT supplier include: home accessibility and transportation survey; technology assessment; equipment demonstration/trial/simulation; product feature matching to identified medical, physical, and functional needs; system configuration; purchasing and assembly; fitting and adjusting; programming; and product related training and follow-up.
- b. Provide for payment for temporary rental equipment when a Medicaid beneficiary's CRT item is being repaired.
- c. Provide for annual review of CRT codes and fee amounts for appropriate adjustments as needed.

6.) Other Required Changes-

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

This initiative is supported by the National Coalition for Assistive & Rehab Technology (NCART). For additional information contact Don Clayback, Executive Director, at 716-839-9728 or dclayback@ncart.us or visit www.ncart.us