

OUTPATIENT/AMBULATORY HEALTH SERVICES

HRSA Description (2-1-2016)

Outpatient/Ambulatory Health Services are diagnostic and therapeutic services provided directly to a client by a licensed healthcare provider in an outpatient medical setting. Outpatient medical settings include clinics, medical offices, and mobile vans where clients do not stay overnight. Emergency room or urgent care services are not considered outpatient settings.

Allowable activities include:

- Medical history taking
- Physical examination
- Diagnostic testing, including laboratory testing
- Treatment and management of physical and behavioral health conditions
- Behavioral risk assessment, subsequent counseling, and referral
- Preventive care and screening
- Pediatric developmental assessment
- Prescription, and management of medication therapy
- Treatment adherence
- Education and counseling on health and prevention issues
- Referral to and provision of specialty care related to HIV diagnosis

Key Service Components

Eligible services include the provision of comprehensive accessible health care services in an outpatient clinical setting under the direction of licensed medical provider who can diagnose and treat HIV, prescribe antiretroviral medications, and counsel on Treatment Adherence. Services include primary medical care and other services and treatment associated with managing a client's HIV disease. Services may include: diagnostic and laboratory testing; referral and provision of specialty care (e.g. infectious disease, dermatology, oncology); screening for mental health, substance abuse and domestic violence; provision of vaccinations; and other outpatient clinical services such as outpatient rehabilitation, physical therapy, and medical appointments for vision care.

Treatment Adherence services provided during an Outpatient/Ambulatory Health Service visit should be reported under the Outpatient/Ambulatory Health Services category whereas Treatment Adherence services provided during a Medical Case Management visit should be reported in the Medical Case Management service category.

See [Policy Notice 13-04: Clarifications Regarding Clients Eligibility for Private Health Insurance and Coverage of Services by Ryan White HIV/AIDS program.](#)

See *Early Intervention Services*

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Durable medical equipment is not an allowable service in Outpatient/Ambulatory Health Services.

See *Home and Community-Based Health Services*

Activities by providers must abide to HAB clinical performance measures.

Qualifications

Competencies, Knowledge and Skills	Evaluation/Documentation
Services are provided by a licensed medical professional who can diagnose, treat, and prescribe Antiretroviral medications in accordance with state and local laws	A copy of the current license must be available upon request.
HIV care may be provided in the context of primary care. Primary care providers are encouraged to become credentialed as an <i>HIV Specialist</i> via the American Academy of HIV Medicine	If credentialed, a copy of the credentialing certificate must be available upon request.
Has experience providing ongoing care for individuals living with HIV	Demonstrated competencies, knowledge and skills must be available upon request (e.g. participation in training, formal supervisory review, direct observation, case review, etc.)
Knowledge of referral resources to improve HIV medical and psychosocial support for clients	Demonstrated knowledge of community resources
Clinical staff should complete a minimum of 20 CME hrs/yr of HIV/AIDS specialty coursework	