

PROVIDER ALERT



To: AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana Providers

Date: October 11, 2024

Subject: LDH Approved Policy – In Lieu of Service

Summary: Guideline for Care at Home.

AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana would like to make you aware of a new policy that has been approved by the Louisiana Department of Health in accordance with La. R.S. 46:460.54. The guideline is located at the following link on our website under In Lieu of Services:

<https://www.amerihealthcaritasla.com/provider/resources/index.aspx>

Reminder: If your practice is not registered with our website portal-NaviNet, we highly recommend registering. To register, please visit www.navinet.net to sign up or contact your Provider Account Executive for details.

Questions: Thank you for your continued support and commitment to the care of our members. If you have questions about this communication, please contact AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana Provider Services at 1-888-922-0007 or your [Provider Network Management Account Executive](#).

Missed an alert? You can find a complete listing of provider alerts on the [Provider Newsletters and Updates](#) page of our website.

Need to update your provider information? Send full details to network@amerihealthcaritasla.com.

Care at Home

In Lieu Of Policy ID: ILO.05

Recent review date: 7/2024

Next review date: 7/2026

Policy contains: Ordered treatment at home for members with chronic disease

AmeriHealth Caritas has developed In Lieu Of policies to assist with making coverage determinations for medically appropriate services outside required MCO Covered Services or settings (or beyond the service limits established by LDH for MCO Covered Services. AmeriHealth Caritas' In Lieu Of services are provided to Enrollees, at their option, as a cost-effective alternative to an MCO Covered Service or Setting.

LDH has determined that this In Lieu Of service is a medically appropriate and cost-effective substitute for the MCO Covered Service or setting under the Louisiana Medicaid State Plan.

Coverage policy

Eligible members are enrollees age 18 and older with chronic disease who are experiencing an acute exacerbation of their illness. This urgent care is for members who are physically unable to reach their provider and may otherwise necessitate emergency transport for care. Providers may refer their patient for an at home scheduled visit when a virtual care or in-office visit is not appropriate to address the member's acute chronic health needs. An in-home care provider, either an EMT or paramedic, depending on need, is sent to the member's residence within 24 hours to facilitate treatment and symptom management. Communication and coordination of care is arranged with the referring PCP.

Acadian Health offers the CLINIC@home program of provider clinic augmentation. The provider contacts Acadian Health to arrange a visit to the member, who has reported having an acute exacerbation of chronic disease, when an in-office or telehealth visit is not otherwise available. The visit can be same day (urgent, unscheduled) or scheduled within next 24 hours (scheduled). This serves as a hands-on visit for providers to extend their specialty practice into patients' homes, offering after hours and weekend support. The visit includes follow-up care and education for recently discharged and high-risk patients. The collaboration between the Acadian Health team and the referring provider is expected to result in improved patient satisfaction, care coordination, and ability to achieve quality health outcomes. Prescheduled visits can be organized with the provider joining by phone or telehealth. If the provider is unavailable, Acadian Health's trained professionals can execute on a provider's care plan in their place, sending detailed notes and updates following the visit. Acadian Health offers quality patient-centered care for many conditions and chronic diseases.

After Acadian Health conducts an initial evaluation, the EMT or paramedic on-site staff consults with the ordering provider on appropriate diagnostic testing and appropriate action. Diagnostic services provided by Acadian Health include: 4 and 12 lead EKG, Waveform capnography, Mean arterial pressure, Pulse oximetry, IV fluid

administration, Nebulizer treatments, Traditional blood draws for lab analysis, and Medication administration (IV, IM, SQ, IN). Medications available for treatment include:

- Albuterol
- Amiodarone
- Aspirin
- Atropine
- Bumex
- Calcium chloride
- Dextrose 50%
- Diltiazem
- Diphenhydramine
- Epinephrine
- Furosemide
- Glucagon
- Oral glucose
- Ipratropium bromide
- Ketorolac
- Labetalol
- Lidocaine 2%
- Magnesium sulfate
- Metoprolol
- Naloxone
- Nitroglycerine SL and paste
- Ondansetron
- Rocephin
- Solumedrol

Service Descriptions:

Care at Home

Procedure Codes: 99342 99344 99345 99348 99349 99350 99417

E&M codes 99211-99215

CPT	Mobile Health Home Visit Description	Visit Type Description
99342	ALS Provider (Paramedic/Licensed Practical Nurse) - Includes Advanced Life Support (ALS) assessment, basic vital signs (pulse, blood pressure, pulse oximetry, temperature, weight, and respiratory rate). Advanced Level Providers can support care such as IVs, EKGs, A1C, fluid and medication administration.	New Patient Home Visit (Unscheduled)
99344	BLS Provider (EMT) - Includes basic assessment, basic vital signs (pulse,	New Patient Home Visit (Unscheduled)

	blood pressure, pulse oximetry, temperature, weight, and respiratory rate) support virtual medical assessments and no medical interventions	
99345	BLS Provider (EMT) - Includes basic assessment, basic vital signs (pulse, blood pressure, pulse oximetry, temperature, weight, and respiratory rate) support virtual medical assessments and no medical interventions.	New Patient Home Visit (Unscheduled)
99348	ALS Provider (Paramedic/Licensed Practical Nurse) - Includes Advanced Life Support (ALS) assessment, basic vital signs (pulse, blood pressure, pulse oximetry, temperature, weight, and respiratory rate). Advanced Level Providers can support care such as IVs, EKGs, A1C, fluid and medication administration. (This is repetitive in provider proposal at same rates)	Patient Home Visit (Scheduled)
99349	ALS Provider (Paramedic/Licensed Practical Nurse) - Includes Advanced Life Support (ALS) assessment, basic vital signs (pulse, blood pressure, pulse oximetry, temperature, weight, and respiratory rate). Advanced Level Providers can support care such as IVs, EKGs, A1C, fluid and medication administration.	Patient Home Visit (Scheduled)
99350	ALS Provider (Paramedic/Licensed Practical Nurse) - Includes Advanced Life Support (ALS) assessment, basic vital signs (pulse, blood pressure, pulse oximetry, temperature, weight, and respiratory rate). Advanced Level Providers can support care such as IVs, EKGs, A1C, fluid and medication administration.	Patient Home Visit (Scheduled)
99417	Prolonged service, per additional 15 minute increments	
99211 -99215 (append applicable modifier/place of service)	Telehealth visit	E&M code billed by physician collaborating care

Background

LDH has approved an AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana “in lieu of” (ILO) benefit to assist in prevention of unnecessary emergency department utilization and further acute complications of chronic disease.

Expected Outcomes

Anticipated outcomes from participating in this ILO include:

- Reduction in ED Utilization
- Earlier interventions to prevent and/or mitigate long-term effects of acute exacerbations of chronic condition
- Improve coordination of care with the member’s PCP.
- Increased member engagement in appropriate level of care

Policy updates

7/2024: initial review date and ILO policy effective date: 8/2024