

AIM Specialty Health *Outpatient Rehabilitative and Habilitative Services Clinical Appropriateness Guidelines* updates

Effective for dates of service on and after June 12, 2022, the following updates will apply to the AIM Specialty Health® (AIM)* *Outpatient Rehabilitative and Habilitative Services Clinical Appropriateness Guidelines*. As part of the AIM guideline annual review process, these updates are focused on advancing efforts to drive clinically appropriate, safe, and affordable healthcare services.

Physical therapy and occupational therapy:

- Removed definition of **evidence-based therapy** and added definition for **functional progress**
- Added examples of the following:
 - Appropriate goals
 - Skilled intervention documentation
 - Clinically meaningful improvement and functional progress
 - Rehabilitation purpose

Speech-language pathology:

- Removed definition of **evidence-based therapy** and added definition for **functional progress**
- Added examples of the following:
 - Appropriate goals
 - Functional progress
 - Rehabilitation purpose

Physical therapy and occupational therapy adjunctive treatments:

- Removed dry needling indication
- Edited exclusions

As a reminder, ordering and servicing providers may submit prior authorization requests to AIM in one of the following methods:

- Access AIM's *ProviderPortals*SM directly at www.providerportal.com:
 - **Online access is available 24/7 to process orders in real-time and is the fastest and most-convenient way to request authorization.**
- Access AIM via the Availity* Portal at www.availity.com.
- Call the AIM Contact Center toll-free number at **866-745-1784** available Monday through Friday, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Central time.

If you have questions related to guidelines, please contact AIM via email at aim.guidelines@aimspecialtyhealth.com. Additionally, you may access and download a copy of the current and upcoming guidelines at <https://aimspecialtyhealth.com/resources/clinical-guidelines>.

* AIM Specialty Health is an independent company providing some utilization review services on behalf of Empire BlueCross BlueShield HealthPlus. Availity, LLC is an independent company providing administrative support services on behalf of Empire BlueCross BlueShield HealthPlus.