

METHODS AND STANDARDS FOR ESTABLISHING PAYMENT RATES -
OTHER TYPES OF CARE

Revised: ~~January~~ April 1, 2024

4.b. Early and Periodic Screening and Diagnosis of Individuals Under 21 Years of Age and
Treatment of Conditions Found (Continued)

(19) Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, and Speech-Language Therapy Services

Effective for dates of service on or after October ~~1~~, 1999, the Arkansas Medicaid maximum rates for physical therapy services, occupational therapy services and **speech-language** therapy services are based on court-ordered rates issued by the United States District Court, Eastern District of Arkansas, Western Division and agreed upon by the Division of Medical Services and representatives of the Arkansas Physical Therapy Association, the Arkansas Occupational Therapy Association and the Arkansas Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

Effective April 1, 2022, the agency's ~~therapy~~ fee schedule rates **for occupational therapy, physical therapy, and speech-language pathology treatment services** were set **based on an average of 2019 Medicare utilization data for the same services as of January 1, 2008 and are effective for services on or after that date. The fee schedule rates for occupational therapy, physical therapy, and speech-language pathology evaluations were determined to be in line with Medicare and were not changed. The occupational therapy, physical therapy, and speech-language pathology treatment rate adjustments will be implemented over two (2) years. An initial rate increase will be implemented on April 1, 2022, and the second will be implemented on April 1, 2023.**

~~All therapy~~ The applicable fee schedule ~~of~~ rates **at any given time** are published on the agency's website (www.medicaid.state.ar.us **Fee Schedules - Arkansas Department of Human Services**). A uniform rate for these services is paid to all governmental and non- governmental providers unless otherwise indicated in the state plan. The State assures that physical therapists, occupational therapists and **speech-language** therapists will meet the requirements contained in 42 CFR 440.110.

Therapy Assistants - Effective for dates of service on or after October I, 1999, the Arkansas Medicaid maximum for the physical therapy assistant, occupational therapy assistant and the **speech-language** therapy assistant is based on 80% of the amount reimbursed to the licensed therapist.

Fee schedule service reimbursement is based on the lesser of the amount billed or the Arkansas Title XIX (Medicaid) maximum charge allowed.

1. Physical Therapy

Listed below are covered physical therapy services:

Description

Evaluation for physical therapy
Individual physical therapy Group
physical therapy
Individual physical therapy by physical therapy assistant Group
physical therapy by physical therapy assistant

At the beginning of each calendar year, Medicaid officials and the Arkansas Physical Therapy Association or its successor will arrive at mutually agreeable increase or decrease in reimbursement rates based on the market forces as they impact on access. Any agreed upon increase or decrease will be implemented at the beginning of the following state fiscal year, July 1 with any appropriate State Plan changes.