ESSENTIAL INFORMATION
October 2020

Medicaid Coverage for Podiatric Care: A National Survey

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Funded by The Podiatry Foundation

SUMMARY
This map identifies variations in Medicaid coverage for podiatry services across all 50 states and the District of Columbia in effect as of October 1, 2020.

ABOUT MEDICAID COVERAGE FOR PODIATRIC CARE & THE DATA
Medicaid is a joint federal-state program that provides medical coverage for low-income Americans meeting certain eligibility criteria. The federal government maintains a list of minimum services that must be covered in state Medicaid plans. Beyond that list, states are free to add optional services such as dental or optical care. Furthermore, states have wide latitude on how they define the eligibility, scope of coverage, and limitations for those optional services. One such optional service is coverage for medical care provided by a podiatric physician.

This map, and the data used to create it, presents state-level statutes, regulations, and program documents that outline state Medicaid coverage schemes for podiatric care. The map includes key characteristics such as scope and limitations of coverage. Examples of limitations include: frequency of covered visits, limitations on the number of covered visits, limitations on types of covered procedures, requirements for prior authorization, and out-of-pocket costs.

All 51 jurisdictions in the United States offer some form of Medicaid reimbursement for podiatric services. This is a cross-sectional dataset and captures variations in those coverage schemes in effect as of October 1, 2020.

Funding for this project was provided by The Podiatry Foundation, which promotes and fosters podiatric medical education and research by awarding grants supporting projects related exclusively to podiatric medicine.
NAVIGATING THE DATA

There are two ways to navigate the data by clicking the Filter tab or the Explore tab — for each option, the data can be visualized in a map and table format or in jurisdiction profiles.

Filter
The dataset homepage will default to the Filter tab. Here, users may answer a series of questions to learn more about the characteristics of the laws. Answering more than one question will show all the jurisdictions that meet the combined criteria. Criteria selected will be listed above the questions, and can be removed by clicking the white X or by clicking “Reset” above the questions.

Explore
Users can access Explore by clicking the Explore tab in the bar above the questions. Using Explore, users will see the answers to one question across all jurisdictions.

The primary questions in this dataset are:

1. Are podiatric services covered for all classes of Medicaid beneficiaries?
2. Are there categorical limitations on coverage of podiatric services?
3. Is the frequency of podiatric visits limited over a specified period?
4. Are there explicit limitations on coverage of routine footcare?
5. Are there explicit limits on the number of routine foot care visits allowable per specified period?
6. Is prior authorization explicitly required for any podiatric services?
7. Are out-of-pocket costs indicated for podiatric services?
8. Are there podiatric services that are explicitly not covered?
9. May podiatric services listed as “non-covered” be covered in instances of medical necessity?

DISPLAYING THE RESULTS

There are two display modes once criteria have been selected by using either the Filter or Explore tab — Map display mode and Profiles display mode.

Map Display
LawAtlas.org dataset homepages default to the map display mode. When querying the data using the Filter tab, all jurisdictions that meet the criteria selected will display in one tone of yellow. Those jurisdictions that do not meet the criteria selected will be colored gray. When querying the data using the Explore tab, the map will illuminate with colors from yellow to red that are associated with the various answer choices (the color-coding is defined by the key to the left of the map).

Below the map, a table will appear. Using the Filter or Explore tab to navigate the questions will change the display:

- Using the Filter tab, you can select an unlimited number of criteria and the applicable jurisdictions that meet the combined criteria will be displayed in the table below.
• Using the Explore tab, you can isolate a single criterion and the applicable jurisdictions will appear in the table below.

Profiles Display
The Profiles display presents the results of the criteria selected in a text-based format for each applicable jurisdiction. Using the Filter tab, jurisdictions that meet the criteria selected will display. Using the Explore tab, jurisdictions that meet the criterion selected will display. If no criteria are selected, the full profiles for each state will appear under both Filter and Explore.

Profile Legend
Within each Profile box, above the questions and answers, there are additional options and information useful in exploring the law:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>§§</th>
<th>Toggle Legal Text – Selecting this option will show all the legal text used to answer questions for this jurisdiction.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Toggle Full Place Profile – Selecting this option will show all questions and answers for this jurisdiction, regardless of what was selected using the Filter or Explore tabs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‹ ›</td>
<td>Toggle Size – Selecting this option will make the profile larger, but will not change the information displayed.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Legal Text History – This interactive timeline displays when changes in the law have occurred within a jurisdiction. Using the arrows to the left or right, users may explore how the law has changed over time as new amendments to the law have been enacted. The timeline will change from gray to a shade of yellow when the jurisdiction passed its first relevant law. Each change in the law after that is marked by a break in the timeline.

Map and Profile Legend
There are a few symbols to be aware of in both Map and Profiles display modes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>§</th>
<th>Section Symbol – Clicking this symbol will open a window that displays excerpts from the law that correspond to the question and answer.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>🔴</td>
<td>Caution Note – Clicking on this symbol will open a small window that displays text that describes important caveats about the question and answer.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DATASET RESOURCES
Each dataset homepage includes the following resources available for download:
Data: The Data file exports in CSV format and may contain two tabs. The “Statistical Data” tab contains the legal variables coded in the dataset, displayed as values defined in the accompanying Codebook. The “Summary Data” tab contains the legal variables coded in the dataset in text form, as well as the accompanying citations and any caution notes that may be included. Note: if there is only one tab available for download it will be the “Statistical Data” as described above.

Codebook: The Codebook defines all of the coded variables in the dataset. The Codebook lists the question, question type, variable name, variable value and variable label. The Codebook should be used in conjunction with the Statistical Data extract.

Research Protocol: The Research Protocol is a comprehensive document that outlines the entire methodology of the project, including the scope, inclusion and exclusion criteria, data collection methods, definitions, coding scheme decisions, as well as the quality control process.

Summary Report: The Summary Report provides a snapshot of important findings from the dataset.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Every effort was made to contact state Medicaid officials for clarification in cases where documentation was ambiguous or unavailable. It was not always possible to make contact. It should be noted that the bulk of the data collection took place during the COVID-19 pandemic. Many of the Medicaid offices are administratively housed under the state public health function which was likely overburdened with the pandemic response.

This collection of laws does not provide legal advice, nor does it address enforcement of laws, administrative policies, case law, or any other sources of law. Should you have a specific question about these laws in your state, please contact an attorney in your jurisdiction.