Harvard Pilgrim Health Care | TUFTS Health Plan

Point32Health companies

Payment Policy:
# Nutritional Counseling

**Applies to:**

**Commercial Products**

☒ Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Commercial products
☒ Tufts Health Plan Commercial products

**Public Plans Products**

☒ Tufts Health Direct – A Massachusetts Qualified Health Plan (QHP) (a commercial product)
☒ Tufts Health Together – MassHealth Accountable Care Partnership Plans
☒ Tufts Health RITogether – A Rhode Island Medicaid Plan
☒ Tufts Health One Care – A dual-eligible product

**Senior Products**

☒ Tufts Health Plan Senior Care Options (SCO) (a dual-eligible product)
☒ Tufts Medicare Preferred HMO/PPO (Medicare Advantage products)

## Policy

Point32Health reimburses contracted providers for nutritional counseling services. This may include registered dieticians or licensed nutrition professionals who are contracted to provide such services.

## Prerequisites

Applicable Point32Health referral, notification, and authorization policies may apply. Refer to the appropriate sections within the Provider Manuals for more information.

## General Benefit Information

Services are pursuant to the member's benefit plan documents and are subject to applicable member out-of-pocket cost (e.g., copayment, coinsurance, deductible). Member eligibility and benefit specifics should be verified prior to initiating services.

Use of non-contracted labs may have the unintended consequence of subjecting the member to unnecessary services not ordered by the treating provider or other unreasonable financial exposure. In such circumstances, Point32Health may hold the ordering provider accountable for any inappropriate behavior on the part of the nonparticipating lab that has been selected.

## Point32Health Reimburses

- Nutritional counseling services for the purpose of disease management
- All covered diagnostic tests related to nutritional counseling that are ordered by the member's PCP and are rendered by a contracted provider
- Diabetes outpatient self-management training services for members who are rendered by a certified diabetes health care provider
- Medical nutrition therapy performed by a physician or other qualified healthcare professional when billed under an evaluation and management or preventive medicine service code
- Nutritionists should report the appropriate medical nutrition therapy code

## Point32Health Does *Not* Reimburse

- Commercial diet plans, weight management programs or any related food or services
- Gym membership therapy
- Holistic therapy
- Nutritional counseling when offered by health resorts, recreational programs, camps, wilderness programs, outdoor skill programs, relaxation, or lifestyle programs, including any services provided in conjunction with such programs
- Supplemental foods
- Treatment by a physical therapist for weight loss

*Please refer to the member's specific benefit plan to determine if these services may be covered under any supplemental benefits or discount programs.

## Provider Billing Guidelines and Documentation

Providers are reimbursed according to the applicable contracted rates and fee schedules.

**Coding**
This code table may not be all-inclusive.

| Code | Description |
|---|---|
| 0942 | Other therapeutic services- education/ training. CPT/HCPCS required |
| 97802 | Medical nutrition therapy; initial assessment and intervention, individual, each 15 minutes |
| 97803 | Medical nutrition therapy; re-assessment and intervention, individual, each 15 minutes |
| 97804 | Medical nutrition therapy; group (2 or more individuals), each 30 minutes |
| G0270 | Medical nutrition therapy; reassessment and subsequent intervention(s) following second referral in same year for change in diagnosis, medical condition or treatment regimen (including additional hours needed for renal disease), individual, face-to-face with the patient, each 15 minutes |
| G0108 | Diabetes outpatient self-management training services, individual, per 30 minutes |
| G0109 | Diabetes outpatient self-management training services, group session (two or more), per 30 minutes |

## Related Policies and Resources

**Payment Policies**

- Advanced Practice Provider (APP)
- Evaluation and Management
- Home Health Care
- Maximum Units

## Publication History

07/01/2026: Annual policy review; updated coding grid to include G0270, G0108 and G0109
07/01/2025: Annual review; administrative updates
07/01/2024: Annual review; no changes
09/29/2023: Policy moved to new template; includes all lines of business; added Maximum Units to related policies; administrative edits

## Background and Disclaimer Information

This policy applies to the products of Harvard Pilgrim Health Care and Tufts Health Plan and their affiliates, as identified in the check boxes on the first page for services performed by contracted providers.

Payment is based on member benefits and eligibility on the date of service, medical necessity review, where applicable, and the provider's network participation agreement with the Plan. As every claim is unique, this policy is neither a guarantee of payment, nor a final indication of how specific claim(s) will be adjudicated. Claims payment is subject to member eligibility and benefits on the date of service, coordination of benefits, referral/authorization, and utilization management requirements (when applicable), adherence to Plan policies and procedures, and claims editing logic. An authorization is not a guarantee of payment.

Point32Health reserves the right to amend a payment policy at its discretion. CPT and HCPCS codes are updated as applicable; please adhere to the most recent CPT and HCPCS coding guidelines.

We reserve the right to conduct audits on any provider and/or facility to ensure accuracy and compliance with the guidelines stated in this payment policy. If such an audit determines that a provider/facility did not comply with this payment policy, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care and Tufts Health Plan will expect the provider/facility to refund all payments related to noncompliance.