

Authorization Guide for Asthma Preventive Services

Asthma Preventive Services (APS) provides asthma education in clinics and at home, along with in-home checks for environmental triggers. These services are available to eligible Medi-Cal members of any age when medically necessary and must follow federal and state requirements. Under 42 CFR §440.130(c), a physician or other licensed health professional must recommend APS within their legal scope of practice.

Program overview	Eligibility
<p>Asthma education includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic facts about asthma. Proper use of long-term controllers and quick-relief medications. Evidence-based self-management and monitoring techniques. Actions to reduce environmental exposures that worsen symptoms. <p>In-home environmental trigger assessment involves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying common asthma triggers in and around the home (allergens, irritants). Guiding education on reducing or controlling these exposures. <p>Poorly controlled asthma is defined as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Asthma control test score of 19 or lower, or Asthma-related emergency room visit or hospitalization, or Two urgent/sick care visits for asthma in the past 12 months. 	<p>Eligibility</p> <p>APS must be recommended by a licensed practitioner (physician, nurse practitioner, physician assistant) within their scope of practice.</p> <p>All Medi-Cal members with an asthma diagnosis may receive self-management education.</p> <p>In-home trigger assessments require:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A current diagnosis of poorly controlled asthma, or Recommendation from a licensed practitioner. <p>Use the Asthma Preventive Services Authorization Request Form to recommend a member for services. The request form is available at https://bit.ly/CalAIM-Providers, in the Forms & Tools section under Community Supports (CS).</p>
Billing information	
<p>In-home environmental trigger assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HCPCS code: T1028 (assessment of home/family environment, to determine suitability to meet patient's medical needs) is used for environmental trigger assessment. May be provided by licensed or unlicensed APS providers. Limit: Two visits per year; additional visits require authorization request demonstrating medical necessity for additional visits and/or when there has been a change of primary residence. Use the Asthma Preventive Services Authorization Request Form for additional visit requests. Place of service codes: 12 (home), 13 (assisted living facility), 14 (group home). Use modifier U3 for APS providers Include appropriate ICD-10-CM diagnosis codes. 	

Community Health Plan of Imperial Valley ("CHPIV") is the Local Health Authority (LHA) in Imperial County, providing services to Medi-Cal enrollees in Imperial County. CHPIV contracts with Health Net Community Solutions, Inc. to arrange health care services to CHPIV members. *Health Net Community Solutions, Inc. is a subsidiary of Health Net, LLC and Centene Corporation. Health Net is a registered service mark of Health Net, LLC. All other identified trademarks/service marks remain the property of their respective companies. All rights reserved.

Asthma education

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- Physicians, nurse practitioners and physician assistants may bill using standard Evaluation and Management CPT codes.
- Unlicensed APS providers use:
 - **98960** – Individual education (30 min)
 - **98961** – Group education (2–4 patients, 30 min)
 - **98962** – Group education (5–8 patients, 30 min)
- **Frequency:** Up to four units (two hours) per day, twice per year; additional visits require authorization. Use the Asthma Preventive Services Authorization Request Form for additional visit requests.
- Use **modifier U3** for APS providers. For more information on allowable modifiers, refer to the [Modifiers Used with Procedure Codes](https://bit.ly/procedure-code-modifiers) at <https://bit.ly/procedure-code-modifiers>.
- Include appropriate **ICD-10-CM diagnosis codes**.

Additional information

Key updates on APS and Community Supports (CS):

- Refer to the [Medi-Cal Provider Manual for APS](https://bit.ly/Medi-CalProviderManualforAPS) at <https://bit.ly/Medi-CalAsthmaPreventiveServices>.
- Refer to the [Medi-Cal Provider Manual for Community Health Worker Preventive Services](https://bit.ly/chwps-ops-manual) at <https://bit.ly/chwps-ops-manual>.
- The California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) has removed in-home environmental trigger assessments and asthma self-management education from the Asthma Remediation CS program; these services are now offered under APS, launched July 2022.
- CalAIM requires CS to supplement—not replace—other funded services. To comply, DHCS will update the Asthma Remediation CS, effective **January 1, 2026**. Managed Care Plans must cover asthma self-management education and in-home trigger assessments under APS; these will no longer be covered under CS.
- Asthma Remediation providers must enroll in Medi-Cal to continue delivering these services under APS.
- APS covers clinic-based and home-based asthma self-management education, plus in-home environmental trigger assessments to identify modifications or supplies that reduce asthma episodes. Asthma Remediation should supplement—not duplicate—the APS benefit.