

42 C.F.R. § 424.24

Requirements for medical and other health services furnished by providers under Medicare Part B.

- (a) Exempted services. Certification is not required for the following:
- (1) Hospital services and supplies incident to physicians' services furnished to outpatients. The exemption applies to drugs and biologicals that cannot be self-administered, but not to partial hospitalization services, as set forth in paragraph (e) of this section.
- (2) Outpatient hospital diagnostic services, including necessary drugs and biologicals, ordinarily furnished or arranged for by a hospital for the purpose of diagnostic study.
- (b) *General rule*. Medicare Part B pays for medical and other health services furnished by providers (and not exempted under paragraph (a) of this section) only if a physician certifies the content specified in paragraph (c)(1) or (4), (d)(1), or (e)(1) of this section, as appropriate.
- (c) Outpatient physical therapy and speech-language pathology services—(1) Content of certification. (i) The individual needs, or needed, physical therapy or speech pathology services.
- (ii) The services were furnished while the individual was under the care of a physician, nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, or physician assistant.
- (iii) The services were furnished under a plan of treatment that meets the requirements of \S 410.61 of this chapter.
- (2) *Timing.* The initial certification must be obtained as soon as possible after the plan is established.
- (3) *Signature.* (i) If the plan of treatment is established by a physician, nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, or physician assistant, the certification must be signed by that physician or nonphysician practitioner.

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