

**This notice was replaced on February 7, 1994 by Revenue Notice 94-03.**

## Minnesota revenue notice

### Revenue Notice # 93-14 MinnesotaCare - Patient Services

Patient services are defined in Minn. Stat. § 295.50 as any of the listed health care goods and services provided to a patient or consumer:

- bed and board;
- nursing services and other related services;
- use of the facility;
- medical social services;
- drugs, biologicals, supplies, appliances and equipment;
- other diagnostic or therapeutic items or services;
- medical or surgical services;
- items and services furnished to ambulatory patients not requiring emergency care;
- emergency services; or
- services covered under the medical assistance program.

Generally, patient services include services or goods rendered by or at the direction of a licensed or registered individual who provides the services within the scope of his or her license or registration.

There must be a medical relationship between the provider, the patient or consumer, and the services or goods provided. The patient or consumer must be seeking or be in need of some medical treatment and the provider must provide goods or services to affect or remedy the physical or mental condition of the patient or consumer. All goods and services provided in connection with this treatment are patient services.

#### Examples of medical relationship

1. A doctor advising a business on occupational safety in the workplace has no medical relationship with the employees of the company. A doctor or nurse hired by a business to treat or advise employees on health care problems does have a medical relationship with the employees seeking treatment or advice.
2. A college nurse teaching a class about the dangers of smoking does not have a medical relationship with the students. The class is not given within the scope of the nurse's occupational license. A medical relationship does exist if the same nurse treats or advises individual students on health care problems.
3. A dietitian referred by a physician to advise an individual on proper diet to remedy or alleviate some medical condition has a medical relationship with the individual. A nurse or dietitian instructing a group of individuals on the importance of good diet in general, does not have a medical relationship with the group if the instruction is not specifically related to the medical conditions of the members of the group.

#### Examples of Patient Services

- Patient counseling;
- Medical transportation by an ambulance service;
- Preventive, corrective or diagnostic services provided by or under supervision of a dentist;
- Independent laboratory services;
- Professional services provided by a physician;
- Personalized weight loss or nutritional counseling are patient services when the patient receives the counseling as a necessary adjunct to the treatment of a medical condition. Services provided by commercial weight loss organizations are not patient services;

- Immunizations;
- Voluntary and medically necessary surgeries.

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Michael E. Boekhaus, Director  
Appeals, Legal Services & Criminal Investigation Division

Dated: July 26, 1993

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