



Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center

Communication Disorders Department

Policy and Procedure

SUBJECT: INTERIM EVALUATION AND RE-EVALUATION

Policy No.: 515
Supersedes: May 1991
Revision Date: February 2022
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PURPOSE

To ensure complete and accurate documentation by defining the guidelines for completing interim and re-certification evaluation speech-language pathology reports.

POLICY

An **interim** evaluation is performed when there is a change in the patient's treatment plan including change in goals, change in frequency, cognitive-communication and/or swallowing status, or to justify additional services, as required by clinical circumstances or third party payers.

A **re-certification evaluation** is performed at designated time periods as required by third party payers.

PROCEDURES

All patients shall be re-evaluated following the procedures outlined in Communication Disorders Department Policy- Evaluation of Communication Disorders (RTD COD 502 and 514).

Medicare requires a recertification note be provided at minimum every 90 days for outpatients receiving therapy services. The note must reflect changes in clinical/functional status and progress on both long term and short goals. The note must be signed by a physician, physician assistant or nurse practitioner.

In addition to the standard evaluation report content, the interim and/or the re-certification report should include:

- A Narrative or ratings which compare and contrast the patient's present abilities with those described in the previous evaluation report.
- A summary of patient progress toward goals
- If patient progress and prognosis indicate ability to benefit from continued treatment, new goals or a revision of initial goals should be generated for the duration of the treatment program and stated in the report.
- Recommendations, including the need for any additional ancillary services that may have arisen since the initial evaluation.

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 1991

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES • DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

REVIEWED: February 2022

Signature(s) on File.