

**North Dakota Department of Human Services  
Medical Services  
Definitions of Direct and General Supervision**

**Direct Supervision**

**Office Setting:** Direct supervision in an office setting means that the physician (MD, DO) or *other qualified health care professional (NP, CNS, PA)* must be present in the office suite and immediately available to provide assistance and direction throughout the time the employee is performing the service. However, the physician or *other qualified health care professional (NP, CNS, PA)* does not need to be physically present in the same room as his/her/clinic employee.

**Physician Directed Clinic:** In clinics, particularly those that are departmentalized, direct physician supervision may be the responsibility of several physicians, as opposed to an individual attending physician. In this situation, medical management of all services provided in the clinic is assured. The physician ordering a particular service need not be the physician who is supervising the service. Therefore, services performed by the employee are covered even though they are performed in another department of the clinic. The service would be billed under the ND Medicaid provider number of the supervising physician.

**General Supervision**

General supervision means that the ND Medicaid enrolled Provider need not be physically present at the facility where the service is rendered but must be immediately available by phone or by other means of communication. However, the service must be performed under his/her overall supervision and control and the following criteria must be met.

1. The service is an integral part of the enrolled Provider's services to the patient. This means the enrolled provider must initiate treatment and see the patient at a frequency that reflects his/her active involvement in the patient's care.
2. The services are reasonable and necessary, and not otherwise excluded from Medicaid coverage.

A ND Medicaid enrolled provider cannot hire and supervise a professional whose scope of practice is outside the provider's own scope of practice as authorized under state law, or whose professional qualifications exceed those of the "supervising" provider.

Addendum: This is not part of the definition; however this is an example of how ND Medicaid would apply this definition to LCSWs working under the direct supervision of a physician.

Services rendered by the LCSW under the direct supervision of the physician must bill for his/her services under the supervising physician's ND Medicaid provider number and append the procedure (CPT) code with modifier AJ (clinical social worker).

**This document supercedes all previous information distributed by the Department related to Provider Enrollment and Supervision.**

See chart on reverse side for supervision requirements.

**North Dakota Department of Human Services  
Medical Services  
Provider Enrollment**

<b>Enrolled Providers</b>	<b>Auxiliary Personnel</b>	<b>Modifiers</b>	<b>Supervision</b>
<b>Audiologist</b>	N/A		
<b>Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA)</b>	N/A	<b>QX, or QZ</b>	
<b>Chiropractor</b>	N/A		
<b>Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) (enrollment effective 1/1/13)</b>	<b>RN, LPN</b>	<b>AS*</b>	Direct
<b>Dentist</b>	N/A		
<b>Licensed (Clinical) Psychologist</b>	N/A		
<b>Licensed Registered Dietician (LRD)</b>	N/A		
<b>Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker (LICSW)</b>	N/A		
<b>LPN/Registered Nurse (Private Duty Nursing only)</b>	N/A		
<b>Nurse Practitioner</b>	<b>RN, LPN</b>	<b>AS*</b>	Direct
<b>Nurse Midwife</b>	N/A		
<b>Occupational Therapist (OT)</b>	<b>Licensed/Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant</b>		General
<b>Optometrist</b>	N/A		
<b>Pharmacist (Vaccination administration only)</b>	N/A		
<b>Physical Therapist (PT)</b>	<b>Licensed/Certified Physical Therapy Assistant</b>		General
<b>Physician (MD/DO)</b>	<b>CRNA</b>	<b>QX, or QZ</b>	General
<p>Note: Physician (MD/DO) <b>includes</b> those physicians in a residency program who have a permanent license to practice medicine in North Dakota issued by the North Board of Medical Examiners, <b>or</b> have been granted a temporary special license for foreign medical school graduates (see Medical Practice Act of North Dakota - Chapter 43-17-18.4).</p>	<b>LICSW, LCSW</b>	<b>AJ</b>	Direct
	<b>Nurse (RN, LPN)</b>		Direct
	<b>Registered Nurse (RN)</b>	<b>TD</b>	General - <b>ONLY</b> for administration of influenza virus and/or pneumococcal vaccines
	<b>Nurse Midwife</b>	<b>SB</b>	General
	<b>Certified Diabetic Educator</b>		General
<b>Physician Assistant (PA) (enrollment effective 1/1/13)</b>	<b>RN, LPN</b>	<b>AS*</b>	Direct
<b>Podiatrist</b>	NA		
<b>Registered Nurse (RN)</b>	N/A		Enrolled to administer vaccines/ toxoids
<b>Speech Pathologist</b>	N/A		

\***AS** - Physician assistant, nurse practitioner, or clinical nurse specialist services for **assistant at surgery**  
**Modifiers U1 - Physician Assistant (PA) and U2 - Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) are no longer valid on and after 1/1/13**

Auxiliary personnel rendering services under the direct or general supervision of an enrolled provider may only render services that are defined in the enrolled provider's scope of practice. **See Direct and General Supervision definition.**