

Osteopathic Manipulative Management Policy

Osteopathic manipulative medicine (OMM) is a physician-directed approach to patient care that incorporates diagnostic and therapeutic strategies to address body unity issues, enhance homeostatic mechanisms, and maximize structure-function interrelationships. OMM may be provided by VCHCP as one (1) treatment method to treat a member with chronic pain problems. Referrals for Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine (OMM) must be approved by VCHCP.

Requirements for approval:

1. The member must have a chronic pain issue (1 1/2 months or longer) **and**
2. The member must have been tried on other pain treatments for at least 6 weeks before being eligible for OMM. (NSAIDS, narcotic pain medications, muscle relaxers, or a course of physical therapy) **and**
3. The treatment will be provided in a clinic with a formal OMM program, and services will be provided by an Osteopathic Physician trained in OMM) **or**
4. Acute treatment, if indicated, is provided by a Primary Care Provider who is an Osteopathic Physician trained in OMM and documentation is submitted indicating the need for OMM on an acute basis.

If VCHCP considers the request medically necessary, approvals will include a total of 3 visits as follows:

1. One (1) visit to include an initial evaluation by the osteopathic provider with an evaluation and management code of 99203 or 99204 if a new patient or 99213 or 99214 if an existing patient. In addition, a treatment code for OMM between 98925 and 98929 depending on the parts of the body treated.
2. Two (2) follow-up visits for treatment and compensated with treatment codes between 98925 and 98929.

Any additional treatments or need for evaluation would require a re-review and an approval by the Health Plan. The VCHCP does not consider it appropriate that a member receive two (2) types of manipulative therapy simultaneously. Therefore, VCHCP will not approve OMM and physical therapy to be provided at the same time.

Attachments: None

History:

Reviewed/No Updates: Howard Taekman, MD & Robert Sterling, MD

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