

Cognitive dysfunction attestation for nursing facilities and waivers

Resident name: _____ Medicaid ID: _____

Cognitive Test and score: _____ Date of Cognitive Test: _____

Person/credentials performing the testing/scoring: _____

Chronic condition causing the cognitive dysfunction: _____

Date that the condition was diagnosed: _____

☐ Disoriented to person

☐ Disoriented to place

☐ Disoriented to time

Attending provider name/credentials (printed): _____

Attending provider signature and date: _____

Attach a letter written by the patient's current attending provider outlining the patient's history of cognitive dysfunction and examples of how it is currently affecting the patient, including disorientation. A copy of any cognitive testing referred to in the letter must be attached as well.

Requirements for the cognitive function attestation:

- Only a current attending provider with a knowledge of the resident's overall condition and history may attest to their cognitive dysfunction.
- Cognitive testing must be indicative of their current long-term condition and have been completed in the last 90 days. The testing should not have been given during an acute change in condition.
- Cognitive tests can include, but are not limited to, a Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA) or a Mini-Mental Status Exam. Anyone completing/scoring a cognitive test must complete and maintain any certifications related to that test.
- The attending provider letter can include the interpretation of the cognitive test score and should describe the symptoms that justify the score.
- Mental health and behaviors can be included but should not be the only issues identified.
- The Brief Interview for Mental Status (BIMS) on the Minimum Data Set (MDS) will not be considered as a standalone cognitive test.
- The Department is ultimately responsible for determining if a Medicaid resident has a clinical need for nursing facility services.

Definitions:

"Attending provider" means a duly licensed or certified medical doctor (MD or DO), physician assistant, advanced practice registered nurse, or nurse practitioner that is responsible for the overall care of the patient including diagnosis, treatment, and followup.

"Cognitive testing" means testing that is used to diagnose conditions, which can include questions about memory, executive function, language, visuospatial abilities, and orientation.

For more information, see Utah Administrative Code R414-502-3.