

**441—78.8 (249A) Chiropractors.** Payment will be made for the same chiropractic procedures payable under Title XVIII of the Social Security Act (Medicare).

**78.8(1) Covered services.** Chiropractic manipulative therapy (CMT) eligible for reimbursement is specifically limited by Medicaid to the manual manipulation (i.e., by use of the hands) of the spine for the purpose of correcting a subluxation demonstrated by X-ray. Subluxation means an incomplete dislocation, off-centering, misalignment, fixation, or abnormal spacing of the vertebrae.

**78.8(2) Indications and limitations of coverage.**

*a.* The subluxation must have resulted in a neuromusculoskeletal condition set forth in the table below for which CMT is appropriate treatment. The symptoms must be directly related to the subluxation that has been diagnosed. The mere statement or diagnosis of “pain” is not sufficient to support the medical necessity of CMT. CMT must have a direct therapeutic relationship to the patient’s condition. No other diagnostic or therapeutic service furnished by a chiropractor is covered under the Medicaid program.

| ICD                 | CATEGORY I                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | ICD             | CATEGORY II                                                                                                                                                                        | ICD               | CATEGORY III                                                                                                       |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| G44.1               | Vascular headache NEC*                                                                                                                                                                                                              | G54.0-<br>G54.4 | Nerve root and plexus disorders, brachial plexus disorders, lumbosacral plexus disorders, cervical root disorders NEC, thoracic root disorders NEC, lumbosacral root disorders NEC | M48.30-<br>M48.33 | Traumatic spondylopathy, site unspecified, occipito-atlanto-axial region, cervical region, cervicothoracic region  |
| G44.209             | Tension headache, unspecified, not intractable                                                                                                                                                                                      | G54.8           | Other nerve root and plexus disorders                                                                                                                                              | M48.35-<br>M48.38 | Traumatic spondylopathy, thoracolumbar region, lumbar region, lumbosacral region, sacral and sacrococcygeal region |
| M47.21-<br>M47.28   | Other spondylosis with radiculopathy, occipito-atlanto-axial region, cervical region, cervicothoracic region, thoracic region, thoracolumbar region, lumbar region, lumbosacral region, sacral and sacrococcygeal region            | G54.9           | Nerve root and plexus disorder, unspecified                                                                                                                                        | M50.20-<br>M50.23 | Other cervical disc displacement                                                                                   |
| M47.811-<br>M47.818 | Spondylosis without myelopathy or radiculopathy, occipito-atlanto-axial region, cervical region, cervicothoracic region, thoracic region, thoracolumbar region, lumbar region, lumbosacral region, sacral and sacrococcygeal region | G55             | Nerve root and plexus compressions in diseases classified elsewhere                                                                                                                | M50.30-<br>M50.33 | Other cervical disc degeneration                                                                                   |

| ICD                 | CATEGORY I                                                                                                                                                                                            | ICD                 | CATEGORY II                                                                                                                                                             | ICD               | CATEGORY III                                                                   |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| M47.891-<br>M47.898 | Other spondylosis, occipito-atlanto-axial region, cervical region, cervicothoracic region, thoracic region, thoracolumbar region, lumbar region, lumbosacral region, sacral and sacrococcygeal region | M43.00-<br>M43.28   | Spondylolysis; spondylolisthesis; fusion of spine                                                                                                                       | M51.24-<br>M51.27 | Other thoracic, thoracolumbar and lumbosacral intervertebral disc displacement |
| M54.2               | Cervicalgia                                                                                                                                                                                           | M43.6               | Torticollis                                                                                                                                                             | M51.34-<br>M51.37 | Other thoracic, thoracolumbar and lumbosacral intervertebral disc degeneration |
| M54.5               | Low back pain                                                                                                                                                                                         | M46.00-<br>M46.09   | Spinal enthesopathy                                                                                                                                                     | M54.30-<br>M54.32 | Sciatica                                                                       |
| M54.6               | Pain in the thoracic spine                                                                                                                                                                            | M46.41-<br>M46.47   | Discitis, unspecified, occipito-atlanto-axial region, cervical region, cervicothoracic region, thoracic region, thoracolumbar region, lumbar region, lumbosacral region | M54.40-<br>M54.42 | Lumbago with sciatica                                                          |
| M54.81              | Occipital neuralgia                                                                                                                                                                                   | M48.00-<br>M48.08   | Spinal stenosis                                                                                                                                                         | M96.1             | Postlaminectomy syndrome, NEC                                                  |
| M54.89              | Other dorsalgia                                                                                                                                                                                       | M48.34              | Traumatic spondylopathy, thoracic region                                                                                                                                |                   |                                                                                |
| M54.9               | Dorsalgia, unspecified                                                                                                                                                                                | M50.10-<br>M50.13   | Cervical disc disorder with radiculopathy                                                                                                                               |                   |                                                                                |
| R51                 | Headache                                                                                                                                                                                              | M50.80-<br>M50.83   | Other cervical disc disorders                                                                                                                                           |                   |                                                                                |
|                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                       | M50.90-<br>M50.93   | Cervical disc disorder, unspecified                                                                                                                                     |                   |                                                                                |
|                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                       | M51.14-<br>M51.17   | Intervertebral disc disorders with radiculopathy, thoracic region, thoracolumbar region, lumbar region, lumbosacral region                                              |                   |                                                                                |
|                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                       | M51.84-<br>M51.87   | Other thoracic, thoracolumbar and lumbosacral intervertebral disc disorders                                                                                             |                   |                                                                                |
|                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                       | M53.0               | Cervicocranial syndrome                                                                                                                                                 |                   |                                                                                |
|                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                       | M53.1               | Cervicobrachial syndrome                                                                                                                                                |                   |                                                                                |
|                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                       | M53.2X1-<br>M53.2X9 | Spinal instabilities                                                                                                                                                    |                   |                                                                                |
|                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                       | M53.3               | Sacrococcygeal disorders NEC                                                                                                                                            |                   |                                                                                |
|                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                       | M53.80              | Other specified dorsopathies, site unspecified                                                                                                                          |                   |                                                                                |
|                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                       | M53.84-<br>M53.88   | Other specified dorsopathies, thoracic region, thoracolumbar region, lumbar region, lumbosacral region, sacral and sacrococcygeal region                                |                   |                                                                                |

| ICD | CATEGORY I | ICD                 | CATEGORY II                                                                                                 | ICD | CATEGORY III |
|-----|------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|--------------|
|     |            | M53.9               | Dorsopathy, unspecified                                                                                     |     |              |
|     |            | M54.10-<br>M54.18   | Radiculopathy                                                                                               |     |              |
|     |            | M60.80              | Other myositis,<br>unspecified site                                                                         |     |              |
|     |            | M60.811,<br>M60.812 | Other myositis, shoulder,<br>right, left                                                                    |     |              |
|     |            | M60.819             | Other myositis,<br>unspecified shoulder                                                                     |     |              |
|     |            | M60.821,<br>M60.822 | Other myositis, upper<br>arm, right, left                                                                   |     |              |
|     |            | M60.829             | Other myositis,<br>unspecified upper arm                                                                    |     |              |
|     |            | M60.831,<br>M60.832 | Other myositis, forearm,<br>right, left                                                                     |     |              |
|     |            | M60.839             | Other myositis,<br>unspecified forearm                                                                      |     |              |
|     |            | M60.841,<br>M60.842 | Other myositis, hand,<br>right, left                                                                        |     |              |
|     |            | M60.849             | Other myositis,<br>unspecified hand                                                                         |     |              |
|     |            | M60.851,<br>M60.852 | Other myositis, thigh,<br>right, left                                                                       |     |              |
|     |            | M60.859             | Other myositis,<br>unspecified thigh                                                                        |     |              |
|     |            | M60.861,<br>M60.862 | Other myositis, lower leg,<br>right, left                                                                   |     |              |
|     |            | M60.869             | Other myositis,<br>unspecified lower leg                                                                    |     |              |
|     |            | M60.871,<br>M60.872 | Other myositis, ankle and<br>foot, right, left                                                              |     |              |
|     |            | M60.879             | Other myositis,<br>unspecified ankle and<br>foot                                                            |     |              |
|     |            | M60.88,<br>M60.89   | Other myositis, other site,<br>multiple sites                                                               |     |              |
|     |            | M60.9               | Myositis, unspecified                                                                                       |     |              |
|     |            | M62.830             | Muscle spasm of back                                                                                        |     |              |
|     |            | M72.9               | Fibroblastic disorder,<br>unspecified                                                                       |     |              |
|     |            | M79.1               | Myalgia                                                                                                     |     |              |
|     |            | M79.2               | Neuralgia and neuritis,<br>unspecified                                                                      |     |              |
|     |            | M79.7               | Fibromyalgia                                                                                                |     |              |
|     |            | M99.20-<br>M99.23   | Subluxation stenosis of<br>neural canal, head region,<br>cervical region, thoracic<br>region, lumbar region |     |              |
|     |            | M99.30-<br>M99.33   | Osseous stenosis of<br>neural canal, head region,<br>cervical region, thoracic<br>region, lumbar region     |     |              |

| ICD | CATEGORY I | ICD                   | CATEGORY II                                                                                                                  | ICD | CATEGORY III |
|-----|------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|--------------|
|     |            | M99.40-<br>M99.43     | Connective tissue stenosis of neural canal, head region, cervical region, thoracic region, lumbar region                     |     |              |
|     |            | M99.50-<br>M99.53     | Intervertebral disc stenosis of neural canal, head region, cervical region, thoracic region, lumbar region                   |     |              |
|     |            | M99.60-<br>M99.63     | Osseous and subluxation stenosis of intervertebral foramina, head region, cervical region, thoracic region, lumbar region    |     |              |
|     |            | M99.70-<br>M99.73     | Connective tissue and disc stenosis of intervertebral foramina, head region, cervical region, thoracic region, lumbar region |     |              |
|     |            | Q76.2                 | Congenital spondylolisthesis                                                                                                 |     |              |
|     |            | S13.4XXA,<br>S13.4XXD | Sprain of ligaments of cervical spine, initial encounter, subsequent encounter                                               |     |              |
|     |            | S13.8XXA,<br>S13.8XXD | Sprain of joints and ligaments of other parts of neck, initial encounter, subsequent encounter                               |     |              |
|     |            | S16.1XXA,<br>S16.1XXD | Strain of muscle, fascia and tendon at neck level, initial encounter, subsequent encounter                                   |     |              |
|     |            | S23.3XXA,<br>S23.3XXD | Sprain of ligaments of thoracic spine, initial encounter, subsequent encounter                                               |     |              |
|     |            | S23.8XXA,<br>S23.8XXD | Sprain of other specified parts of thorax, initial encounter, subsequent encounter                                           |     |              |
|     |            | S33.5XXA,<br>S33.5XXD | Sprain of ligaments of lumbar spine, initial encounter, subsequent encounter                                                 |     |              |
|     |            | S33.6XXA,<br>S33.6XXD | Sprain of sacroiliac joint, initial encounter, subsequent encounter                                                          |     |              |

\* NEC means not elsewhere classified.

*b.* The neuromusculoskeletal conditions listed in the table in paragraph “*a*” generally require short-, moderate-, or long-term CMT. A diagnosis or combination of diagnoses within Category I generally requires short-term CMT of 12 per 12-month period. A diagnosis or combination of diagnoses within Category II generally requires moderate-term CMT of 18 per 12-month period. A diagnosis or combination of diagnoses within Category III generally requires long-term CMT of 24 per 12-month period. For diagnostic combinations between categories, 28 CMTs are generally required per 12-month

period. If the CMT utilization guidelines are exceeded, documentation supporting the medical necessity of additional CMT must be submitted with the Medicaid claim form or the claim will be denied for failure to provide information.

c. CMT is not a covered benefit when:

- (1) The maximum therapeutic benefit has been achieved for a given condition.
- (2) There is not a reasonable expectation that the continuation of CMT would result in improvement of the patient's condition.
- (3) The CMT seeks to prevent disease, promote health and prolong and enhance the quality of life.

**78.8(3) Documenting X-ray.** An X-ray must document the primary regions of subluxation being treated by CMT.

a. The documenting X-ray must be taken at a time reasonably proximate to the initiation of CMT. An X-ray is considered to be reasonably proximate if it was taken no more than 12 months prior to or 3 months following the initiation of CMT. X-rays need not be repeated unless there is a new condition and no payment shall be made for subsequent X-rays, absent a new condition, consistent with paragraph "c" of this subrule. No X-ray is required for pregnant women and for children aged 18 and under.

b. The X-ray films shall be labeled with the patient's name and date the X-rays were taken and shall be marked right or left. The X-ray shall be made available to the department or its duly authorized representative when requested. A written and dated X-ray report, including interpretation and diagnosis, shall be present in the patient's clinical record.

c. Chiropractors shall be reimbursed for documenting X-rays at the physician fee schedule rate. Payable X-rays shall be limited to those Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) procedure codes that are appropriate to determine the presence of a subluxation of the spine. Criteria used to determine payable X-ray CPT codes may include, but are not limited to, the X-ray CPT codes for which major commercial payors reimburse chiropractors. The Iowa Medicaid enterprise shall publish in the Chiropractic Services Provider Manual the current list of payable X-ray CPT codes. Consistent with CPT, chiropractors may bill the professional, technical, or professional and technical components for X-rays, as appropriate. Payment for documenting X-rays shall be further limited to one per condition, consistent with the provisions of paragraph "a" of this subrule. A claim for a documenting X-ray related to the onset of a new condition is only payable if the X-ray is reasonably proximate to the initiation of CMT for the new condition, as defined in paragraph "a" of this subrule. A chiropractor is also authorized to order a documenting X-ray whether or not the chiropractor owns or possesses X-ray equipment in the chiropractor's office. Any X-rays so ordered shall be payable to the X-ray provider, consistent with the provisions in this paragraph.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 249A.4.