



Quick Reference Chart: Descriptors of G-codes and Modifiers for Therapy Functional Reporting

Please note: The information in this publication applies only to the Medicare Fee-For-Service Program (also known as Original Medicare).

The Middle Class Tax Relief and Jobs Creation Act (MCTRJCA) of 2012 amended the Social Security Act to require a claims-based data collection system for outpatient therapy services, including physical therapy (PT), occupational therapy (OT), and speech-language pathology (SLP) services. The system collects data on beneficiary function during the course of therapy services to better understand beneficiary conditions, outcomes, and expenditures. Beneficiary function information is reported using 42 nonpayable functional G-codes and seven severity/complexity modifiers on claims for PT, OT, and SLP services. Information on the required use of

these codes and modifiers for Functional Reporting of PT, OT, and SLP services is available in the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, Chapter 5, Section 10.6: <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/downloads/bp102c15.PDF>.

Note: Due to CY 2019 Physician Fee Schedule (PFS) rulemaking, effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2019, Medicare no longer requires the functional reporting of nonpayable HCPCS G-codes and severity modifiers – adopted to implement section 3005(g) of MCTRJCA – on claims for therapy services. For details about these payment policies, see MLN Matters article MM11120 at <https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/Downloads/MM11120.pdf>.

G-CODES FOR FUNCTIONAL REPORTING

There are 42 functional G-codes, 14 sets of three codes each. Six of the G-code sets generally describe PT and OT functional limitations, and eight sets of G-codes generally describe SLP functional limitations.

Mobility G-code Set	Long Descriptor	Short Descriptor
G8978	Mobility: walking & moving around functional limitation, current status, at therapy episode outset and at reporting intervals	Mobility current status
G8979	Mobility: walking & moving around functional limitation, projected goal status, at therapy episode outset, at reporting intervals, and at discharge or to end reporting	Mobility goal status
G8980	Mobility: walking & moving around functional limitation, discharge status, at discharge from therapy or to end reporting	Mobility d/c status

Changing & Maintaining Body Position G-code Set	Long Descriptor	Short Descriptor
G8981	Changing & maintaining body position functional limitation, current status, at therapy episode outset and at reporting intervals	Body pos current status
G8982	Changing & maintaining body position functional limitation, projected goal status, at therapy episode outset, at reporting intervals, and at discharge or to end reporting	Body pos goal status
G8983	Changing & maintaining body position functional limitation, discharge status, at discharge from therapy or to end reporting	Body pos d/c status

Carrying, Moving & Handling Objects G-code Set	Long Descriptor	Short Descriptor
G8984	Carrying, moving & handling objects functional limitation, current status, at therapy episode outset and at reporting intervals	Carry current status
G8985	Carrying, moving & handling objects functional limitation, projected goal status, at therapy episode outset, at reporting intervals, and at discharge or to end reporting	Carry goal status
G8986	Carrying, moving & handling objects functional limitation, discharge status, at discharge from therapy or to end reporting	Carry d/c status

Self Care G-code Set	Long Descriptor	Short Descriptor
G8987	Self care functional limitation, current status, at therapy episode outset and at reporting intervals	Self care current status
G8988	Self care functional limitation, projected goal status, at therapy episode outset, at reporting intervals, and at discharge or to end reporting	Self care goal status
G8989	Self care functional limitation, discharge status, at discharge from therapy or to end reporting	Self care d/c status

Other PT/OT Primary G-code Set	Long Descriptor	Short Descriptor
G8990	Other physical or occupational therapy primary functional limitation, current status, at therapy episode outset and at reporting intervals	Other pt/ot current status
G8991	Other physical or occupational therapy primary functional limitation, projected goal status, at therapy episode outset, at reporting intervals, and at discharge or to end reporting	Other pt/ot goal status
G8992	Other physical or occupational therapy primary functional limitation, discharge status, at discharge from therapy or to end reporting	Other pt/ot d/c status

Other PT/OT Subsequent G-code Set	Long Descriptor	Short Descriptor
G8993	Other physical or occupational therapy subsequent functional limitation, current status, at therapy episode outset and at reporting intervals	Sub pt/ot current status
G8994	Other physical or occupational therapy subsequent functional limitation, projected goal status, at therapy episode outset, at reporting intervals, and at discharge or to end reporting	Sub pt/ot goal status
G8995	Other physical or occupational therapy subsequent functional limitation, discharge status, at discharge from therapy or to end reporting	Sub pt/ot d/c status

Swallowing G-code Set	Long Descriptor	Short Descriptor
G8996	Swallowing functional limitation, current status at therapy episode outset and at reporting intervals	Swallow current status
G8997	Swallowing functional limitation, projected goal status, at therapy episode outset, at reporting intervals, and at discharge or to end reporting	Swallow goal status
G8998	Swallowing functional limitation, discharge status, at discharge from therapy or to end reporting	Swallow d/c status

Motor Speech G-code Set (Note: This code set is not sequentially numbered.)	Long Descriptor	Short Descriptor
G8999	Motor speech functional limitation, current status at therapy episode outset and at reporting intervals	Motor speech current status
G9186	Motor speech functional limitation, projected goal status at therapy episode outset, at reporting intervals, and at discharge or to end reporting	Motor speech goal status
G9158	Motor speech functional limitation, discharge status, at discharge from therapy or to end reporting	Motor speech d/c status

Spoken Language Comprehension G-code Set	Long Descriptor	Short Descriptor
G9159	Spoken language comprehension functional limitation, current status at therapy episode outset and at reporting intervals	Lang comp current status
G9160	Spoken language comprehension functional limitation, projected goal status at therapy episode outset, at reporting intervals, and at discharge or to end reporting	Lang comp goal status
G9161	Spoken language comprehension functional limitation, discharge status, at discharge from therapy or to end reporting	Lang comp d/c status

Spoken Language Expressive G-code Set	Long Descriptor	Short Descriptor
G9162	Spoken language expression functional limitation, current status at therapy episode outset and at reporting intervals	Lang express current status
G9163	Spoken language expression functional limitation, projected goal status at therapy episode outset, at reporting intervals, and at discharge or to end reporting	Lang express goal status
G9164	Spoken language expression functional limitation, discharge status at discharge from therapy or to end reporting	Lang express d/c status

Attention G-code Set	Long Descriptor	Short Descriptor
G9165	Attention functional limitation, current status at therapy episode outset and at reporting intervals	Atten current status
G9166	Attention functional limitation, projected goal status at therapy episode outset, at reporting intervals, and at discharge or to end reporting	Atten goal status
G9167	Attention functional limitation, discharge status at discharge from therapy or to end reporting	Atten d/c status

Memory G-code Set	Long Descriptor	Short Descriptor
G9168	Memory functional limitation, current status at therapy episode outset and at reporting intervals	Memory current status
G9169	Memory functional limitation, projected goal status at therapy episode outset, at reporting intervals, and at discharge or to end reporting	Memory goal status
G9170	Memory functional limitation, discharge status at discharge from therapy or to end reporting	Memory d/c status

Voice G-code Set	Long Descriptor	Short Descriptor
G9171	Voice functional limitation, current status at therapy episode outset and at reporting intervals	Voice current status
G9172	Voice functional limitation, projected goal status at therapy episode outset, at reporting intervals, and at discharge or to end reporting	Voice goal status
G9173	Voice functional limitation, discharge status at discharge from therapy or to end reporting	Voice d/c status

Other Speech Language Pathology G-code Set	Long Descriptor	Short Descriptor
G9174	Other speech language pathology functional limitation, current status at therapy episode outset and at reporting intervals	Speech lang current status
G9175	Other speech language pathology functional limitation, projected goal status at therapy episode outset, at reporting intervals, and at discharge or to end reporting	Speech lang goal status
G9176	Other speech language pathology functional limitation, discharge status at discharge from therapy or to end reporting	Speech lang d/c status

SEVERITY/COMPLEXITY MODIFIERS

For each nonpayable functional G-code, one of the modifiers listed below must be used to report the severity/complexity for that functional limitation. The severity modifiers reflect the beneficiary's percentage of functional impairment as determined by the clinician furnishing the therapy services.

Modifier	Impairment Limitation Restriction
CH	0 percent impaired, limited or restricted
CI	At least 1 percent but less than 20 percent impaired, limited or restricted
CJ	At least 20 percent but less than 40 percent impaired, limited or restricted
CK	At least 40 percent but less than 60 percent impaired, limited or restricted
CL	At least 60 percent but less than 80 percent impaired, limited or restricted
CM	At least 80 percent but less than 100 percent impaired, limited or restricted
CN	100 percent impaired, limited or restricted

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