

Harbor Regional Center Service Policy

THERAPY SERVICES

DEFINITION:

Therapy Services include occupational, sensory-motor, physical, speech, nutritional, psychotherapeutic services and other therapies that are provided by a licensed therapist and are required to prevent deterioration of a specific dysfunction or to improve a person's adaptive functioning.

PHILOSOPHY:

Harbor Regional Center believes that therapy can facilitate the acquisition and development of functional skills or minimize future impairment, developmental delay or loss of skills. Therapy services for infants, toddlers and young children should be designed to enhance the family's capacity to meet the special developmental needs of their children.

POLICY:

Harbor Regional Center may purchase therapy services for a client only if the following criteria are met:

1. the client requires therapy to prevent a specific deterioration in his/her condition, or to assist the client to achieve a specific desired outcome set forth in his/her Individual/Family Service Plan; **and**
2. when the client is of public school age, the desired outcome is not related to their educational plan; **and**
3. an independent* assessment by a professional with a specialty in the therapy, and/or the appropriate regional center specialist, has been completed and indicates that the therapy will assist the client to achieve a specific desired outcome; **and**
4. the client has been denied or is not eligible for Medi-Cal, California Children's Services, private insurance or another third party payer coverage; **and**
5. When the client is a child, the therapy focuses on strengthening the parents' ability to promote their child's development or minimize their child's impairment through demonstration, observation, coaching, and parent education.

(*NOTE: *an independent assessment is one which is conducted by a clinician/therapist who does not provide the direct therapy.*