

## Billing Therapeutic Activities

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Responsible Department: Medical Services

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### Introduction

The purpose of this policy is to establish the criteria WSI requires for reimbursement of Therapeutic Activities (CPT® 97530). WSI defines Therapeutic Activities below and documentation must clearly indicate the treatment provided aligns with this definition. In the event submitted medical documentation supports the use of other Therapeutic Procedure CPT codes rather than Therapeutic Activities (**CPT® 97530**), WSI will deny the charge.

### Definitions

Dynamic Activities - Functional tasks to develop, restore or improve one or more specific activities of daily living or employment, e.g., hand assembly tasks, transfers from chair to bed or lying to sitting, lifting, carrying, throwing, catching, writing or swinging.

Therapeutic Activities - Direct (one-on-one) patient contact by the provider with the use of dynamic activities to improve functional performance or to provide education to the patient on their condition, health and wellness or self-management techniques.

### Policy

In order to qualify for payment of Therapeutic Activities (CPT® 97530), WSI expects the medical documentation submitted supports the use of dynamic activity or education with a clinical objective to advance or assess an injured employee's capabilities. These capabilities should relate to activities of daily living or employment.

If the medical documentation does not meet the above criteria, a provider should consider if the type and level of service provided are better suited to other Therapeutic Procedure CPT Codes, e.g., 97110.

WSI will deny reimbursement if the documentation provided does not meet the criteria outlined in this policy.

### Reference

*Coding and Payment Guide for the Physical Therapist 2010*. Ingenix Inc; 2009.