

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

“This guidance document is advisory in nature but is binding on an agency until amended by such agency. A guidance document does not include internal procedural documents that only affect the internal operations of the agency and does not impose additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties or include confidential information or rules and regulations made in accordance with the Nebraska Administrative Procedure Act. If you believe that this guidance document imposes additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties, you may request a review of the document.”

Pursuant to
Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-901.03

To: Nebraska Medicaid Managed Care Plans
From: Drew Gonshorowski, Director *DG*
Date: May 1, 2026
Re: Nebraska Medicaid FFS Coverage for Cranial Helmets HCPCS Code S1040

This health plan advisory is being issued to notify the Heritage Health Plans that Nebraska Medicaid will cover Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) code S1040 cranial remolding orthosis (pediatric, rigid with soft interface material, custom fabricated, includes fitting and adjustments) when medically necessary, **effective July 1, 2026**.

Cranial remolding orthotic devices (also referred to as cranial helmets, cranial orthoses, and cranial bands) may be prefabricated, custom-fitted or custom-molded and are used to redirect growth of the skull bones in infants.

Nebraska Medicaid will cover cranial remolding orthosis for the clinical indications of craniosynostosis surgery or severe plagiocephaly, ages three months to eighteen months, based on medical necessity. Medical necessity is based on these clinical indications and severity thresholds. All requests for S1040 are subject to each health plans prior authorization process.

Resources

If you have questions regarding this advisory, please email:

DHHS.MLTCPhysicalHealth@Nebraska.gov. Health plans should also copy their contract manager.

Health plan advisories, such as this one, are posted on the DHHS website at

<https://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Heritage-Health-Plan-Advisories.aspx>. Please subscribe to the page to help you stay up to date about new health plan advisories.