



OT COMPLEXITY CODES

97165 – Low Complexity (select if one or more of these factors is applicable)

- A brief medical history and occupational profile is needed to ascertain the issues relating to the presenting problem.
- 1-3 performance deficits* (physical, cognitive, psychosocial) impact the patient.
- Clinical decision making of low complexity: Analysis of the occupational profile, examination of data from the problem-focused assessment, the available treatment options are minimal, no co-morbidities impact occupational performance, and during the evaluation.
- No need to modify tasks, provide physical or verbal assistance during the evaluation.

Generally, about 30 minutes of face-to-face time with the patient and/or family is needed.

97166 – Moderate Complexity (select if one or more of these factors is applicable & none from low)

- More extended review of the occupational profile, medical and therapy history is needed to complete the evaluation; including additional review of physical, cognitive, or psychosocial history related to current presenting problem.
- 3-5 performance deficits (physical, cognitive, psychosocial skills) impact the patient
- Clinical decision making of moderate complexity: This might include analysis of the occupational profile, analysis of data from detailed assessment(s), and consideration of several treatment options. Patient has comorbidities that affect occupational performance.
- Min to mod modification of tasks or assistance is needed to complete the evaluation.

Generally, about 45 minutes of face-to-face time with the patient and/or family is needed.

97167 - High Complexity (select only if all of these factors is applicable)

- An extensive review of the occupational profile, medical and therapy history is needed to complete the evaluation; including additional review of physical, cognitive, or psychosocial history related to current problem.
- 5 or more performance deficits (physical, cognitive, or psychosocial skills) are identified
- Clinical decision-making is of high complexity: This might include analysis of the patient profile, analysis of data from comprehensive assessment(s), and consideration of multiple treatment options. Patient presents with multiple comorbidities that affect occupational performance.
- Significant modification of tasks or assistance (max verbal or physical assist) is needed to complete the evaluation

Generally, 60 minutes of face-to-face with the patient and/or family would be needed.

Performance Deficits*

Physical – Underlying Impairments of body structures or function (e.g., mobility, strength, balance, activity tolerance, fine or gross motor coordination, sensation, dexterity).

Cognitive – Ability to think, understand, problem solve, sequence, attend to a task, remember, and learn new things and carry out occupational tasks safely and efficiently. The need for cues or modification of task would indicate deficits.

Psychosocial - Habits, routines, coping mechanisms, interpersonal skills, and the emotional ability to participate in everyday social situations.

Note: Time spent during evaluation should be considered but not the only determining factor

Source: AOTA and cms.gov