



State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
Department of Health Care Services



GAVIN NEWSOM
GOVERNOR

DATE: June 17, 2019

MHSUDS INFORMATION NOTICE NO.: 19-031

TO: COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIRECTORS
COUNTY DRUG & ALCOHOL ADMINISTRATORS
COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA
CALIFORNIA COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AGENCIES
COALITION OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG ASSOCIATIONS
CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF ALCOHOL & DRUG PROGRAM EXECUTIVES, INC.
CALIFORNIA ALLIANCE OF CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES
CALIFORNIA OPIOID MAINTENANCE PROVIDERS
CALIFORNIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
CALIFORNIA CONSORTIUM OF ADDICTION PROGRAMS AND PROFESSIONALS

SUBJECT: DRUG MEDICAL ORGANIZED DELIVERY SYSTEM INTENSIVE OUTPATIENT SERVICES CLAIMING PROCEDURE CHANGE

PURPOSE: To provide explanation and instruction on changes to the claiming procedure for the Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System (DMC-ODS) Intensive Outpatient Services (IOS).

BACKGROUND

DMC-ODS IOS claiming was programmed in the Short Doyle Medi-Cal (SDMC) system with a single Health Care Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) billing code – H0015. The H0015 HCPCS code is the standard for IOS. This code is used to capture all structured activities for the counseling components of the IOS: Individual Counseling, Group Counseling, and Patient Education.

DISCUSSION

The original claiming procedure for IOS combines three counseling components into one HCPCS billing code. The effect of combining the components has prevented counties and DHCS from performing some quality assurance and utilization management activities in IOS. DHCS will modify the SDMC system to accept IOS claims

using separate HCPCS billing codes with modifiers to allow for the identification of each component of counseling service provided to each beneficiary.

INTENSIVE OUTPATIENT SERVICES

Individual Counseling – HCPCS H0004 with modifier U8

Group Counseling – HCPCS H0005 with modifier U8

Patient Education – HCPCS H0015 with modifier U8

All other requirements for modifiers to identify perinatal and youth beneficiaries remain unchanged. The update to SDMC to incorporate the changes in HCPCS codes is effective July 1, 2019.

DEFINITIONS

From the DMC-ODS Intergovernmental Agreement (IA) -

“Intensive outpatient services involves structured programming provided to beneficiaries as medically necessary for a minimum of nine hours and a maximum of 19 hours per week for adult perinatal and non-perinatal beneficiaries. Adolescents are provided a minimum of six and a maximum of 19 hours per week. Group size is limited to no less than two (2) and no more than twelve (12) beneficiaries.”

“Patient Education” means providing research based education on addiction, treatment, recovery and associated health risks.

Note: Group-counseling size is limited to no less than two and no more than twelve beneficiaries. Patient education is not limited to the two-to-twelve group size.

QUESTIONS

Please contact your assigned Fiscal Management and Accountability Section analyst with any questions regarding these changes to claiming for DMC-ODS IOS.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Brenda Grealish, Acting Deputy Director
Mental Health & Substance Use Disorder Services