This Bulletin is to notify Short-Doyle/Medi-Cal providers that A Guide to Procedure Codes for Claiming Mental Health Services (SMHS) has been updated to include Physician Assistants and Advanced Practice Pharmacists as reimbursable disciplines effective July 1, 2017.

NOTE: The Integrated Behavioral Health Information System (IBHIS) is still in the process of being updated to account for this change. Please hold any claims in IBHIS related to Physician Assistants/Advanced Practice Pharmacists until August 1, 2017.

Physician Assistant Reimbursable Services:
- Psychiatric Diagnostic Interview (Assessment)
- Evaluation & Management Medication Support Services
- Comprehensive Medication Support Services

Advanced Practice Pharmacists Reimbursable Services:
- Evaluation & Management Medication Support Services
- Comprehensive Medication Support Services

NOTE: Advanced Practice Pharmacists are not permitted to complete the Psychiatric Diagnostic Interview (Assessment) and may not diagnose. They must provide services in accord with the diagnosis rendered by a qualified discipline.

Other revisions to the Guide to Procedure Codes:
- Added a new page specifically for descriptions of reimbursable disciplines (page 8)
- Provided clarification that MD/DOs must be Board Certified/Board Eligible Psychiatrists to be reimbursed for SMHS or, with written approval from LACDMH, other qualified physicians
- Separated out prescription by phone from other H2010 services (page 29)


If directly-operated or contracted providers have any questions regarding this Bulletin, please contact your Service Area QA Liaison.

c: Executive Management Team
  Judith Weigand, Compliance Program Office
  Zena Jacobi, Central Business Office
  Robert Burchuk, Managed Care
  TJ Hill, ACHSA
  Regional Medical Directors

District Chiefs
Program Heads
Department QA staff
QA Service Area Liaisons