



Quality Assurance Bulletin

Quality Assurance Unit

County of Los Angeles – Department of Mental Health

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GUIDE TO PROCEDURE CODES UPDATES

The Guide to Procedure Codes for Specialty Mental Health Services (“the Guide”) has been updated with information previously shared during the Central Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement Monthly meeting and via distribution emails from the Quality Assurance (QA) Unit. The Guide has been further updated to account for changes to the CPT Evaluation and Management (E&M) codes by the American Medical Association (AMA), effective January 1, 2023, designed to streamline coding and documentation.

Below is a summary of the updates:

Disciplines/Categories/Taxonomies:

- ✓ Added clarifying information that any practitioner participating in a graduate medical education (GME) program should be assigned a 174 taxonomy code
- ✓ Added Peer Specialist (Certified) for those who hold the Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialist Certification through a certified program by the California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA). This new discipline and category have also been added to the Network Adequacy: Provider and Practitioner Administration (NAPPA) application.
 - The current discipline/category of “Peer Advocate” has been renamed to “Peer (Non-Certified)” and should be used for peers who are not certified.

Procedure Codes:

- ✓ Added codes for Enhanced Care Management for directly-operated providers. These codes will only be used by our “Enhanced Care Management” team formerly known as Whole Person Care.
- ✓ Added codes for Peer Support Services
 - H0025HE (Behavioral Health Prevention Education Service) & H0038HE (Self-Help/Peer Services)
 - These service codes are available only for Peer Specialist (Certified)
 - Additional guidance will be forthcoming from DMH regarding which provider sites will have access to the codes and when peer support services may be claimed
- ✓ Added an asterisk (*) for codes that may utilize an HV modifier for Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) services for Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP) Aftercare Services and Qualified Individual (QI) Services
 - On October 1, 2021, the FFPSA went into effect nationwide. The law authorizes funding for certain services aimed at helping families at risk of entering foster care. Services eligible for the new funding include STRTP Aftercare services and QI assessments (see Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) Behavioral Health Information Notice 21-062). The LAC-DMH must submit claims to DHCS using an “HV” modifier in-order-to access this new funding and identify services as FFPSA. The QA Unit has completed the set-up of all applicable codes with the HV modifier for STRTP providers and directly-operated provider #7171.
 - The codes with the HV modifier are available for claim submission by STRTP providers and may be used effective 9/23/22 for any date of service on or after 7/1/22.
- ✓ Added “Parent/Guardian” as a service Contact for E&M codes
 - If an E&M medication support service is directed towards a parent or guardian, an E&M code shall be utilized and the service considered face-to-face time if delivered in-person or via telehealth.
- ✓ Removed telehealth as a method of delivery for E&M Home services codes (99341-99350)
 - These codes are utilized based on the location of the practitioner; if the practitioner is in the client’s home or domiciliary location, telehealth should not be utilized.
- ✓ Added Telephone and Telehealth as a method of delivery for code H2010HEHQ

- The codes with the SC and GT modifier are available for claim submission for any date of service on or after 7/1/22.
- ✓ Removed reference to missed appointments for H0034
 - Record review for missed appointments may no longer be claimed as a stand-alone service (see QA Bulletin 22-09).
 - H0034 may continue to be used for Medication Plan Development, including medication refills, reviewing labs or blood draws when not in the context of another service.
- ✓ Removed H2016 Comprehensive Community Support
 - This code was only used for special contracts and is no longer in use.
- ✓ Removed E&M Domiciliary, Rest Home or Custodial Care codes (99324-99328, 99334-99337, 99339, 99340) (**effective January 1, 2023**)
 - These codes may no longer be utilized for dates of services on or after January 1, 2023
 - The E&M Home or Resident codes should be utilized in their place.
- ✓ Modified rules for selection of E&M Home or Residency codes to match rules for selection of E&M Office codes (**effective January 1, 2023**)
 - The E&M Home or Residency codes should be selected based on medical decision making or time.
- ✓ Removed E&M Home or Residency code 99343 (**effective January 1, 2023**)
 - This code should no longer be utilized for dates of service on or after January 1, 2023

Appendix:

- ✓ Added HV modifier to the list of Procedure Code Modifiers
- ✓ Added/updated the Place of Service Codes 02 (Telehealth Provided Other than in Patient's Home) and 10 (Telehealth Provided in Patient's Home)
 - Whenever services are provided by telephone or telehealth to a client/collateral, the "Telehealth" locations should be selected.
 - If the client/significant support is home at the time of the telephone/telehealth service, then Place of Service Code 10 should be selected.
 - If the client/significant support is anywhere other than home, then Place of Service Code 02 should be selected, and the address of the client's/support's location added to the address fields.
 - Services that are not to the client/significant support (e.g., a TCM telephone call to a housing facility) should continue to use the location of the practitioner (i.e., office).

If directly-operated or contracted providers have any questions related to this Bulletin, please contact the QA Unit at QualityAssurance@dmh.lacounty.gov.

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