The Guide to Procedure Codes for Claiming Mental Health Services has been updated to clarify certain 2013 code changes. No codes have been added or deleted. The following is a summary of the updates made:

- Psychological Assistants were removed as a Qualified Health Care Professional (QHCP) for psychological testing (pp. 2-3). It was determined that the educational requirements under which one may qualify as a Psychological Assistant do not sufficiently guarantee the prerequisite training necessary to provide psychological testing.

- The approved Rendering Provider was modified to include both Licensed PhD/PsyD, Trained MD/DO and QHCP for Psychological Testing procedures codes 96105, 96110, and 96111 (p. 3).

- The single time value from the official CPT Manual was added for the Psychotherapy procedure codes (p. 4). The new psychotherapy codes have been designated by a single time value in the CPT Manual (i.e. 30, 45 or 60 minutes) which is the time designated in the IS drop-downs. To prevent confusion, this value was also added to the Guide to Procedure Codes along with the allowable time-range (lower and upper face-to-face time limits) for the code.

- Notes were added to Psychotherapy in Crisis to include the Service Function Code and other specifics regarding the use of the code (such as requirements for the CCCP) (p. 5).

- The time-ranges from the official CPT Manual that were associated with the Evaluation and Management (E&M) procedure codes were removed (pp. 11-12). These time-ranges were advisory-only in nature, and not to be used as a determining factor when choosing the code (in contrast to the way time-ranges are treated in determining psychotherapy codes).

- Notes were added to the E&M codes to include additional information about the selection of the E&M code (pp. 11-12)

- A clarifying note was added that Directly-Operated Providers will no longer be using procedure code M0064 (p. 13).

Please refer to the updated Guide to Procedure Codes for Claiming Mental Health Services for a complete list and description of available procedure codes:
http://dmh.lacounty.gov/wps/portal/dmh/admin_tools/prov_manuals

If Contract or Directly-Operated agencies have any questions regarding this Bulletin, please contact your Service Area QA Liaison.

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