



Quality Assurance Bulletin

February 19, 2013 No. 13-02

Program Support Bureau

County of Los Angeles - Department of Mental Health
Marvin J. Southard, DSW, Director

REVISIONS TO A GUIDE TO PROCEDURE CODES

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.

c: Executive Management Team
District Chiefs
Program Heads
Department QA staff
QA Service Area Liaisons

Judith Weigand, Compliance Program Office
Nancy Butram, Revenue Management
Pansy Washington, Managed Care
TJ Hill, ACHSA
Regional Medical Directors