



Optum Contracted Medicaid Providers: What you need to know about the 2020 CPT[®] code changes

The American Medical Association (AMA) recently announced that there will be changes related to coding and billing for some behavioral health services beginning on January 1, 2020. Six permanent CPT codes used to bill for Health and Behavior Assessment and Intervention (HBAI) Services will expire effective December 31, 2019. For any claims for dates of service (DOS) on and after January 1, 2020, replacement CPT codes will apply for applicable HBAI services, and claims submitted using the expired codes may be subject to denial. Here are more specific details:

Health and Behavior Assessment and Intervention Services

If you are a provider serving Medicaid memberships who is currently contracted to bill for Health and Behavior Assessment and Intervention (HBAI) Services using CPT codes expiring on December 31, 2019, please use the updated code set starting on January 1, 2020. Claims for DOS prior to January 1, 2020 may still be submitted with the 2019 code set.

For these new CPT codes, you will be reimbursed at the rates set forth by the applicable state Medicaid agency after rates for those codes are published by the state (or at cost neutral rates established by Optum if your state does not issue rates). In the interim, you will be reimbursed at comparable rates for the expiring HBAI codes. Optum is working with all impacted states to secure rates for the new codes in a timely manner. After the new rates are available, Optum will review and update your fee schedule and complete a claims reconciliation process, if needed; no action will be required on your part.

In addition, we are updating your contract to add the following language to your Payment Appendix:

Please note that for all future updates made by the AMA, Optum will automatically update your fee schedule for any new and applicable CPT codes and reimbursement. Rates will be set using a cost neutral method (or in accordance with state or federal requirements) for any applicable CPT code changes. No formal Notice of Amendment or fee schedule will be issued for these routine changes.

Please inform your billing departments as soon as possible of these changes to ensure that all staff and systems submit appropriate codes for January 1, 2020 dates of service forward.

If you are a provider of services for commercial &/or Medicare membership, please watch your mail for separate correspondence.

Should you have any questions, please contact your Provider Relations Representative or our Network Management Provider Service Line at (877) 614-0484.