2017 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES CPT CODE CHANGES

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2017 UPDATE

Effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2017, the 2017 versions of the Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) and the Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) medical code sets will be in effect.

FAMILY PSYCHOTHERAPY UNIT OF SERVICE

The CPT® definition of family psychotherapy with or without the patient present (90847, 90846), was previously not time limited, and the MO HealthNet Division (MHD) defined a unit of service as 30 minutes. For 2017, the CPT® manual has revised both codes to reflect a 50 minute unit. The MHD is updating both system and policy to reflect this change.

According to CPT® guidelines, time is defined as face-to-face time with a patient. A unit of time (for example 50 minutes for 90846 and 90847) is attained when the mid-point is passed. Do not report 90846 or 90847 for family psychotherapy services of less than 26 minutes.

Once the HCPCS system updates are complete in mid-February of 2017, the fee schedule will reflect the updated reimbursement rate and maximum quantity for 90846 and 90847. The reimbursement rate will double, and the maximum quantity per day will be reduced from two units to one unit.

INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOTHERAPY DESCRIPTION

For 2017, the CPT® descriptions of individual psychotherapy codes were revised to remove the words “and/or family.” The 2017 CPT® manual indicates that codes 90832 and 90834 describe face-to-face psychotherapy with an individual patient and may also include informant(s). Report the code closest to the actual time (16-37 minutes for 90832 and 38-52 minutes for 90834). Do not report psychotherapy of less than 16 minutes duration.
**Provider Bulletins** are available on the MO HealthNet Division (MHD) (Formerly the Division of Medical Services) Web site at [http://dss.mo.gov/mhd/providers/pages/bulletins.htm](http://dss.mo.gov/mhd/providers/pages/bulletins.htm). Bulletins will remain on the Provider Bulletins page only until incorporated into the provider manuals as appropriate, then moved to the Archived Bulletin page.

**MO HealthNet News:** Providers and other interested parties are urged to go to the MHD Web site at [http://dss.mo.gov/mhd/](http://dss.mo.gov/mhd/) to subscribe to the electronic mailing list to receive automatic notifications of provider bulletins, provider manual updates, and other official MO HealthNet communications via E-mail.

The information contained in this bulletin applies to coverage for:

- MO HealthNet Fee-for-Service
- Managed Care Services

Questions regarding MO HealthNet Managed Care benefits should be directed to the patient’s MO HealthNet Managed Care health plan. Before delivering a service, please check the patient’s eligibility status by swiping the MO HealthNet card or by calling the Provider Communications Interactive Voice Response (IVR) System at 573-751-2896 and using Option One for the red or white card.

**Provider Communications Hotline**

*573-751-2896*