



**MassHealth  
 School-Based Medicaid Program  
 Bulletin 30  
 March 2017**

**TO:** School-Based Medicaid Providers Participating in MassHealth

**FROM:** Daniel Tsai, Assistant Secretary for MassHealth 

**RE:** **Replacements for Certain Physical and Occupational Therapy Service Codes**

**Replacement Codes Effective January 1, 2017**

Pursuant to Section 1834(k)(5) of the Social Security Act and guidance released by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), the Executive Office of Health and Human Services, through its Office of Medicaid (MassHealth), is replacing certain service codes related to physical therapy evaluations and occupational therapy evaluations. These changes allow for a better determination of services due to a restructuring of certain HCPCS codes.

For physical therapy evaluations, service codes 97001-TM and 97001-TM-U1 have been retired and replaced by codes 97161-TM, 97161-TM-U1, 97162-TM, 97162-TM-U1, 97163-TM, and 97163-TM-U1, effective January 1, 2017.

For occupational therapy evaluations, service codes 97003-TM and 97003-TM-U1 have been retired and replaced by codes 97165-TM, 97165-TM-U1, 97166-TM, 97166-TM-U1, 97167-TM, and 97167-TM-U1, effective January 1, 2017.

Providers must select the appropriate code and modifier(s) from the list below, and submit claims using the new code and modifier(s) for dates of service on or after January 1, 2017.

<b>Service Code and Modifier</b>	<b>Service Description</b>	<b>Interim Rate</b>	<b>Practitioner</b>
97161-TM	Physical therapy evaluation, Low Complexity (related to an IEP) (20 min)	\$20.86	Physical therapist
97161-TM-U1	Physical therapy evaluation, Low Complexity, related to an IEP (20 min) (in private residential school)	\$10.43	Physical therapist
97162-TM	Physical therapy evaluation, Moderate Complexity (related to an IEP) (30 min)	\$20.86	Physical therapist
97162-TM-U1	Physical therapy evaluation, Moderate Complexity, related to an IEP (30 min) (in private residential school)	\$10.43	Physical therapist

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**Replacement Codes Effective January 1, 2017 (cont.)**

<b>Service Code and Modifier</b>	<b>Service Description</b>	<b>Interim Rate</b>	<b>Practitioner</b>
97163-TM	Physical therapy evaluation, High Complexity (related to an IEP) (45 min or more with a maximum of two hours)	\$20.86	Physical therapist
97163-TM-U1	Physical therapy evaluation, High Complexity, related to an IEP (45 min or more with a maximum of two hours) (in private residential school)	\$10.43	Physical therapist
97165-TM	Occupational therapy evaluation, Low Complexity (related to an IEP) (30 min)	\$20.86	Occupational therapist
97165-TM-U1	Occupational therapy evaluation, Low Complexity, related to an IEP (30 min) (in private residential school)	\$10.43	Occupational therapist
97166-TM	Occupational therapy evaluation, Moderate Complexity (related to an IEP) (45 min)	\$20.86	Occupational therapist
97166-TM-U1	Occupational therapy evaluation, Moderate Complexity, related to an IEP (45 min) (in private residential school)	\$10.43	Occupational therapist
97167-TM	Occupational therapy evaluation, High Complexity (related to an IEP) (60 min or more with a maximum of two hours)	\$20.86	Occupational therapist
97167-TM-U1	Occupational therapy evaluation, High Complexity, related to an IEP (60 min or more with a maximum of two hours) (in private residential school)	\$10.43	Occupational therapist

If providers have submitted claims with the retired codes, for dates of service on or after January 1, 2017, and were rejected by MassHealth, providers may submit the corrected claim as a new claim by using the appropriate new codes as described in this bulletin, for dates of service within 90 days. For dates of service over 90 days, and within one year, the provider can submit a corrected claim for claims in a denied status; or, for claims in a paid status with denied lines, perform a void-and-replace, as described in the 837 Companion Guide for Health-Care Claim: Professional. The 90-day and one-year timely filing requirement continues to apply to all claims.

If you have any questions, please contact the School-Based Claiming Program at 1-800-535-6741 or [schoolbasedclaiming@umassmed.edu](mailto:schoolbasedclaiming@umassmed.edu).