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Administrative Bulletin 20-15

101 CMR 352.00: Rates of Payment for Certain Children's Behavioral Health Services

Effective April 16, 2020

Rate Update Applicable to Certain Children's Behavioral Health Initiative Services During the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Public Health Emergency

Purpose, Scope, and Effective Period

The Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) is issuing this bulletin pursuant to the authority of COVID-19 Order No. 20: *Order Authorizing the Executive Office of Health and Human Services to Adjust Essential Provider Rates During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency* and Executive Order 591: *Declaration of State of Emergency to Respond to COVID-19*. In light of the state of emergency declared in the Commonwealth due to COVID-19, EOHHS, which administers the Massachusetts Medicaid program and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) known as "MassHealth," is establishing increased rates for certain MassHealth-covered Children's Behavioral Health Initiative (CBHI) services established in 101 CMR 352.00: *Rates of Payment for Certain Children's Behavioral Health Services* and as further described in this bulletin. If a rate is not being updated pursuant to this bulletin, the rate remains at the currently established rate.

This administrative bulletin is effective for dates of service from April 1, 2020, through July 31, 2020.

Disclaimer: This bulletin is not authorization for a provider's use of the updated rate or service. Authorization for the provision of, and billing and payment for, CBHI services are pursuant to the applicable MassHealth programmatic requirements.

Background

CBHI services, including in-home behavioral health services, in-home therapy, intensive care coordination, therapeutic mentoring, family support and training services and mobile crisis intervention, are a critical part of MassHealth's enhanced continuum of home- and community-based behavioral health services. As a result of the COVID-19 public health emergency, EOHHS recognizes there are concerns about the cost to CBHI providers in continuing to provide CBHI services to MassHealth members. These concerns include the potential for increased staffing costs, equipment and other costs, including costs associated with the expansion of delivery of services via telehealth to support access in the communities CBHI providers serve, and other concerns resulting from the COVID-19 emergency. EOHHS seeks to promote continued delivery of these critical services to MassHealth members through providing additional financial support to CBHI providers for these additional costs and concerns. Accordingly, EOHHS is establishing updated rates as described below.



Updated Rates for Certain CBHI Services to Address Concerns Related to COVID-19

To support CBHI providers during the COVID-19 emergency, for dates of service from April 1, 2020, through July 31, 2020, EOHHS will increase rates for certain MassHealth-covered CBHI services by 10% above current rates.

The following fee schedule identifies the services and new rates:

Code	Rate	Service Description
H0038	\$17.56	Self-help/peer services, per 15 minutes (parent-caregiver peer-to-peer support service provided by a family partner)
H2011-HN	\$23.18	Crisis intervention service, per 15 minutes (mobile crisis intervention service provided by a paraprofessional)
H2011-HO	\$34.57	Crisis intervention service, per 15 minutes (mobile crisis intervention service provided by a master-level clinician)
H2014-HN	\$15.21	Skills training and development, per 15 minutes (behavior management monitoring provided by a bachelor-level clinician)
H2014-HO	\$29.93	Skills training and development, per 15 minutes (behavior management therapy provided by a master-level clinician)
H2019-HN	\$15.24	Therapeutic behavioral services, per 15 minutes (therapeutic training and support services provided by a bachelor-level clinician)
H2019-HO	\$23.57	Therapeutic behavioral services, each 15 minutes (in-home therapy provided by a master-level clinician)

Code	Rate	Service Description
T1027-EP	\$15.65	Family training and counseling for child development, per 15 minutes (therapeutic mentoring service)
H0023-HT	\$51.29	Behavioral Health Outreach Service (Targeted Case Management) (multi-disciplinary team) that includes family support and training and intensive care coordination per day

Public Comment

EOHHS will accept comments on the rate established via this bulletin through April 30, 2020. Individuals may submit written comments by emailing ehs-regulations@state.ma.us. Please submit written comments as an attached Word document or as text within the body of the email with the name of this bulletin in the subject line. All submissions of comments must include the sender’s full name, mailing address, and organization or affiliation, if any. Individuals who are unable to submit comments by email may mail written comments to EOHHS, c/o D. Briggs, Executive Office of Health and Human Services, 100 Hancock Street, 6th Floor, Quincy, MA 02171.

EOHHS may adopt a revised version of this bulletin taking into account relevant comments and any other practical alternatives that come to its attention.