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Administrative Bulletin 23-19

101 CMR 306.00: Payment for Mental Health Services Provided
in Community Health and Mental Health Centers

Effective January 1, 2023

Code Updates

Under 101 CMR 306.00: *Payment for Mental Health Services Provided in Community Health and Mental Health Center*, the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) is issuing this bulletin to correct certain evaluation and management (E/M) codes for medication visits for mental health centers (MHCs) designated as behavioral health urgent care (BHUC) providers, following 130 CMR 429.405(D.)

Also, EOHHS is issuing this bulletin to update certain modifiers applied to service codes billed by MHCs performed by a psychiatric clinical nurse specialists and clinical psychologists, following 101 CMR 306.03(4).

Behavioral Health Urgent Care E/M Codes

Effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2023, and following the methodology for payment rates for services by MHCs designated as BHUC providers (see 101 CMR 306.03(5)(b)), the allowable fee for payment for certain E/M services provided by BHUC providers is 115% of the fees described in 101 CMR 306.03(5)(d) and 101 CMR 306.03(5)(e). BHUC providers may use the described allowable fees for the following E/M services codes: 99202, 99203, 99204, 99205, 99211, 99212, 99213, 99214, and 99215. The -GJ modifier must be added to E/M codes for services by MHCs designated as BHUC providers.

Psychiatric Clinical Nurse Specialist Modifiers

Effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2023, EOHHS updates the following modifier descriptions in 101 CMR 306.03(4):

(c) -SA Nurse Practitioner rendering service in collaboration with a physician.
(Modifier “- SA” is to be applied to evaluation and management service codes billed by the mental health center which were performed by a psychiatric clinical nurse specialist.)

(g) -AH: Nurse Practitioner rendering service in collaboration with a physician and clinical psychologist (modifier “-AH” is to be applied to service codes billed by the mental health center which were performed by a psychiatric clinical nurse specialists, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, or Physician Assistant or doctoral level clinician, including PhD, PsyD, EdD.)

MHCs billing service codes performed by these providers are instructed to use the appropriate modifier as updated.