Psychiatric Consultations on a Medical Floor of a General Hospital

APRNs approved to provide these services
and
two new billable service codes added to the Outpatient fee schedule

The following information should be noted and communicated immediately to all pertinent offices within your organization.

Effective with the MBHP network provider rate increases that took place on Aug. 1, 2007, Advance Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) are approved to provide psychiatric consults on a medical floor of a general hospital. For specific rates, please refer to your outpatient fee schedules. The rates for psychiatric consult on a medical unit are all-inclusive. MBHP does not reimburse for separate facility charges.

In addition, two new service codes (99254 and 99255) have been added to the MBHP Outpatient Fee Schedule as billable services. Both codes are for inpatient consultation for a new or established patient presenting problem(s) of moderate to high severity, but they differ as to the length of time the physician spends consulting. See the service grid below for more detail and a listing of the claim modifiers.

Authorization procedure for:

- In-network psychiatrists and APRNs providing this service to Members of all ages
- Psychologists (who are seeing Members under the age of 22)

MBHP in-network outpatient psychiatrists, APRNs, and psychologists should obtain authorization through MBHP’s Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system. To access the IVR system, dial 1-888-899-6277. The system is available seven days per week between the hours of 7 a.m. and 9 p.m.

The following information is required:

- Your seven-digit Medicaid provider identification number
- Member’s Medicaid Recipient Identification Number (RID)
- Effective date of registration
- The expiration date is automatically assigned by the IVR and is the effective date plus 119 days.
- One unit = one session. You can enter the number of units up to a maximum of three.
Providers may receive authorization up to 28 days retroactive from the date of the call to the IVR system, or 14 days prospective from the date of the call to the IVR system. If additional units are needed, a telephonic review with an outpatient care manager must be completed. An outpatient care manager can be reached at 1-800-495-0086, ext. 5634.

**Authorization Procedure for:**

- **Out-of-network psychiatrists and APRNs providing this service to Members of all ages**
- **Out-of network psychologists (who are seeing Members under the age of 22)**

Psychiatrists, APRNs, and psychologists who are not MBHP in-network outpatient providers should contact the MBHP Outpatient Department at 1-800-495-0086, ext. 5634, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., to speak to an outpatient care manager to request an authorization for a psychiatric consultation on a medical floor of a general hospital. The following information will be required:

- Member name
- Member RID number
- Provider name
- Provider billing address
- Provider date of birth
- Degree certification/C.V.
- License/certification and number
- TAX ID number
- Social security number
- DEA number (if prescribe)
- Date range of consultation

To process payment, out-of-network providers will receive a letter from the credentialing department and are required to provide additional credentialing information, such as proof of malpractice insurance and a copy of the W-9 form. Providers may receive authorization up to 28 days retroactive from the date of the call to the MBHP outpatient department, or 14 days prospective from the date of the call to the MBHP outpatient department.

**Billing information:**

The following service grid details the service codes, acceptable place of service codes, and service descriptions for psychiatric consultations on a medical unit. Service codes 99254 and 99255 have been added to the grid, effective Aug. 1, 2007.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acceptable Place of Service</th>
<th>Service Code</th>
<th>Acceptable Modifier</th>
<th>Description of Service</th>
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</table>
| 21, 22, 51, 61, 99          | 99251       | U6, UG, SA, UF      | Inpatient consultation for a new or established patient, which requires these three key components:  
- a problem focused history;  
- a problem focused examination; and  
- straightforward medical decision making.  
Usually, the presenting problem(s) are self limited or minor. Physicians typically spend 20 minutes at the bedside and on the patient’s hospital floor or unit. |
| 99252  | U6, UG, SA, UF | Inpatient consultation for a new or established patient, which requires these three key components:  
- an expanded, problem-focused history;  
- an expanded, problem-focused examination; and  
- straightforward medical decision making.  
Usually, the presenting problem(s) are of low severity. Physicians typically spend 40 minutes at the bedside and on the patient’s hospital floor or unit. |
| 99253  | U6, UG, SA, UF | Inpatient consultation for a new or established patient, which requires these three key components:  
- a detailed history;  
- a detailed examination; and  
- medical decision making of low complexity.  
Usually, the presenting problem(s) are of moderate severity. Physicians typically spend 55 minutes at the bedside and on the patient’s hospital floor or unit. |
| 99254  | U6, UG, SA, UF | Inpatient consultation for a new or established patient, which requires these three key components:  
- a comprehensive history;  
- a comprehensive examination; and  
- medical decision making of moderate complexity.  
Usually, the presenting problem(s) are of moderate to high severity. Physicians typically spend 80 minutes at the bedside and on the patient’s hospital floor or unit. |
| 99255  | U6, UG, SA, UF | Inpatient consultation for a new or established patient, which requires these three key components:  
- a comprehensive history;  
- a comprehensive examination; and  
- medical decision making of high complexity.  
Usually, the presenting problem(s) are of moderate to high severity. Physicians typically spend 110 minutes at the bedside and on the patient’s hospital floor or unit. |

Acceptable Modifiers:

U6: MD/DO  
UG: Child Psychiatrist  
SA: APRN-BC  
UF: APRN-BC Child

- Psychiatric consultations on a medical unit are only reimbursable for Members who are MBHP-eligible on the date of service.  
- Authorization is required for these services. Please follow the procedures outlined above.  
- These services can be rendered by psychiatrists and APRNs for all Members or psychologists who are seeing Members under the age of 22.  
- One psychiatric consultation on a medical unit is allowed per date of service. This consultation can be a 20-, 40-, 55-, 80-, or 110-minute service, per the service definitions in the above service grid.  
- Psychiatric consultations on a medical unit must be billed to the MBHP on the HCFA 1500 paper claim form, according to the MBHP’s HCFA 1500 electronic format, or according to the HIPAA-compliant 837 Professional claim format.  
- Date range billing is not allowed.  
- All other MBHP billing requirements apply.
If you have questions regarding this Alert, please contact our Community Relations Department at 1-800-495-0086 (press #3 then #1 to skip prompts), Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Fridays from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.