

<Provider Letter>



DATE

NAME

ADDRESS1

ADDRESS2

CITY, STATE ZIP

Dear NAME:

On January 1, 2013, the billing codes used by behavioral health specialists will change for HNE providers. This is part of a national change in the CPT 2013 manual and impacts all behavioral health specialists. This document is intended to help you understand the changes you will need to make to submit claims for your services in 2013.

Everyone is affected by the code changes, although for practitioners who are licensed to prescribe medications (MD, DO, CNS, and APRN), the changes are even greater. For that reason, I want to first cover the codes for masters level practitioners and psychologists, and then the licensed prescriber category.

Use the table below to select the proper 2013 code that corresponds to the service code used in 2012. Note that there is a new code for psychotherapy for crisis and all previous codes for interactive therapy have been discontinued. This code is appropriate only when needed for an urgent assessment and must include a history of a crisis state, a mental status exam, and a disposition.

2013 Psychotherapy CPT Codes for Psychologists and Master's Level Providers			
2012 Code	Description	2013 Code	Description
Diagnostic Interview Procedures			
90801	Psychiatric Diagnostic Evaluation	90791	Psychiatric Diagnostic Evaluation (no medical services)
		90791	Psychiatric Diagnostic Evaluation (no medical services)
90802	Interactive Psychiatric Diagnostic Evaluation	+90785	Interactive complexity add-on
Psychotherapy			
90804	Psychotherapy 20-30 minutes	90832	Psychotherapy 30 minutes
90806	Psychotherapy 45-50 minutes	90834	Psychotherapy 45 minutes
90808	Psychotherapy 75-80 minutes	90837	Psychotherapy 60 minutes
90846	Family Psychotherapy without the patient present	90846	Family Psychotherapy without the patient present
90847	Family Psychotherapy with the patient present	90847	Family Psychotherapy with the patient present
90853	Group Psychotherapy	90853	Group Psychotherapy
Psychotherapy for Crisis			
None		90839	Psychotherapy for Crisis First 60 minutes
None		90840	Add-on for each additional 30 minutes of psychotherapy for crisis used in conjunction with code 90839

Provider information on changes to behavioral health codes (MD and CNS only)

For prescribers (physicians and clinical nurse specialists), your services are based for the most part on the Evaluation and Management (E/M) codes that traditionally have been used by physicians for medical care. This code represents the complexity and time of your assessment of the patient from a medical perspective. In addition, the E/M category is defined on the basis of whether the patient you are seeing is new or established.

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New Patient Codes

There are specific codes for a new patient, and these replace the old 90801 psychiatric diagnostic evaluation code. **The new code for psychiatric evaluation is 90792** (psychiatric diagnostic evaluations with medical services). If an interactive component is present (used when there is a communication difficulty such as in a child or language impairment), you would include the add-on +90785.

Alternatively, you may wish to bill a new patient E/M code, and the table below shows the requirements for doing so:

Office or Other Outpatient Services					
New Patient	99201	99202	99203	99204	99205
History					
Chief Complaint	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required
History of Present Illness	1-3 elements	1-3 elements	4+ elements	4+ elements	4+ elements
Review of Systems	N/A	Pertinent	2-9 Systems	10-14 Systems	10-14 Systems
Past, Family and/or Social History	N/A	N/A	1 of 3 elements	3 of 3 elements	3 of 3 elements
Physical Examination					
	1-5 elements	6-8 elements	9 or more elements	Comprehensive	Comprehensive
Complexity of Medical Decision Making					
	Straightforward	Straightforward	Low	Moderate	High
Face-to Face Time					
Minutes	10	20	30	45	60

Established Patient Codes

For an established patient you must first bill the E/M code that describes your level of service, using the table below:

Office or Other Outpatient Services					
Established	99211	99212	99213	99214	99215
History					
Chief Complaint	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required
History of Present Illness	1-3 elements	1-3 elements	4+ elements	4+ elements	4+ elements
Review of Systems	N/A	Pertinent	2-9 Systems	10-14 Systems	10-14 Systems
Past, Family and/or Social History	N/A	N/A	1 of 3 elements	3 of 3 elements	3 of 3 elements
Physical Examination					
	1-5 elements	6-8 elements	9 or more elements	Comprehensive	Comprehensive
Complexity of Medical Decision Making					
	Straightforward	Straightforward	Low	Moderate	High
Face-to Face Time					
Minutes	5	10	15	25	40

This code represents the medical components of your visit. Once you have established that, then there are three add-on codes based on the amount of time you provided psychotherapy. They are as follows:

Add-on Code	Description
+90833	30 minute psychotherapy add-on
+90836	45 minute psychotherapy add-on
+90838	60 minute psychotherapy add-on

Definitions

History of Present Illness (HPI)

The number of elements refers to the number of conditions evaluated. For instance, if the patient complains of depression and anxiety, your present illness examination would include those two elements. Other terms used to describe the HPI include:

- **Problem focused:** Chief complaint, brief history of present illness or problem
- **Expanded problem focused:** Chief complaint, brief review of present illness; problem pertinent system review
- **Detailed:** Chief complaint; extended history of present illness; problem pertinent system review extended to include a review of limited number of additional systems; pertinent past, family, and/or social history directly related to the patient's problems
- **Comprehensive:** Chief complaint; extended history of present illness; review of systems that is directly related to the problem(s) identified in the history of the present illness plus a review of all additional body systems; complete past, family, and social history

Review of Systems

- **1-5 elements from the list below = Problem focused:** A limited examination of the affected body area or organ system
- **At least 6 elements from the list below = Expanded problem focused:** A limited examination of the affected body area or organ system and other symptomatic or related organ systems
- **At least nine elements from the list below = Detailed:** An extended examination of the affected body area(s) and other symptomatic or related organ system(s)
- **All elements from the list below = Comprehensive:** A general multisystem examination or a complete examination of a single organ system

Psychiatric Examination	
Elements of Examination	
Constitutional	
Measurement of blood pressure, pulse, respiration, temperature, height or weight (must do at least 3 to count)	
General Appearance of patient	
Musculoskeletal	
Assessment of muscle strength and tone	
Examination of gait and station	
Psychiatric	
Description of speech	
Description of thought processes	
Description of associations	
Description of abnormal or psychotic thoughts including hallucinations, delusions, suicidal, or homicidal ideation	
Description of the patient's judgment	
Orientation to time, place and person	
Recent and remote memory	
Attention span and concentration	
Language such as naming objects	
Fund of knowledge	
Mood and affect	

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Complexity of Medical Decision Making

Finally, the table below is a guide to determining the complexity of medical decision making.

Table 1			
Complexity of Medical Decision Making			
Number of Diagnoses or Management Options	Amount and/or Complexity of Data to be Reviewed	Risk of Complications and/or Morbidity or Mortality	Type of Decision Making
minimal	minimal or none	minimal	straightforward
limited	limited	low	low complexity
multiple	moderate	moderate	moderate complexity
extensive	extensive	high	high complexity

Additional Information

- For psychiatrists: <http://www.psych.org/practice/managing-a-practice/cpt-changes-2013/current-procedural-terminology-cpt-code-changes-for-2013>
- For psychologists: <http://www.apapracticecentral.org/reimbursement/billing/psychotherapy-codes.aspx>
- For social workers: <http://www.socialworkers.org/practice/clinical/2012/092012.asp>

Fee Schedule

An updated fee schedule for 2013 will be mailed shortly.

Sincerely,



Michael J. Orlosky, MD, MMM, CPE
Medical Director, Health New England