

Coding Directive: Provider Coding Psychiatry

Generated on: 01/05/2018

Psychiatrist

Psychiatry services include diagnostic services, psychotherapy, and other services to an individual, family or group. Patient condition, characteristics, or situational factors may require services described as being with interactive complexity. Services may be provided to a patient in crisis. Some psychiatry services maybe provided by a physician or other qualified health care professional.

Evaluation and Management Service Codes (E/M)

Office or other outpatient	Inpatient
99201-99205 New visits	99221-99223 Initial hospital care
99211-99215 Established patient visits	99231-99233 Subsequent hospital care

When providing psychotherapy along with E/M, use these codes below:

Psychotherapy

+90833- Psychotherapy, 30 minutes with patient and/or family member when performed with an E/M service

+90836- Psychotherapy, 45 minutes with patient and/or family member when performed with an E/M service

+90838- Psychotherapy, 60 minutes with patient and/or family member when performed with an E/M service

Tips for the use of these codes:

- To report both E/M and psychotherapy, the two services must be separately identifiable.
- E/M type and level is based upon history, examination and medical decision making.
- Time associated with activities used to meet criteria for the E/M service is not included in the time used for reporting the psychotherapy service.
- Psychotherapy between 1-15 minutes is not billable.
 - Example: An established patient with ADHD, combined type, is seen for worsening symptoms. The psychiatrist increases the patient’s medication after she examines the patient. The patient is having difficulties at school and work, so the psychiatrist spends 25 minutes in psychotherapy using cognitive behavior techniques to help the patient cope with his situation.

This would warrant billing an E/M code with Psychotherapy based on time spent.

Health and Behavior Assessment/Invention Services

- Health and Behavior Assessment/Intervention codes 96150-96155 should only be reported by Clinical psychologist.

******Use the diagnosis calculator in EPIC every time you submit a charge. All charges need an associated specified diagnosis in order to submit.******