

February 11, 2013

Montana Health Care Programs Notice

**Psychiatrists, Physicians, Mid-Level Practitioners, Hospitals,
and Mental Health Centers**

Passport and Medical Evaluation with Psychotherapy Services

Effective January 1, 2013, codes for psychotherapy with medical evaluation and management (E/M) services (90805, 90807, 90809, 90811, 90813, 90815, 90817, 90818, 90822, 90824, 90827, and 90829) were replaced with psychotherapy add-on codes +90833, +90836 and +90838.

These services are to be reported in conjunction with a primary E/M code; the 2013 CPT® instructional notes under the psychotherapy add-on codes define E/M codes that need to be billed. Psychotherapy codes billed without a CPT defined E/M code may be denied; not all CPT defined E/M codes are payable for Montana Health Care Programs so please review the fee schedules for your provider type.

To report both an E/M code and a psychotherapy add-on code, the two services must be significant and separately identifiable, as follows:

- The type and level of E/M service is selected first, based on the key components of history, examination, and medical decision making.
- The psychotherapy must be 16 minutes or more, face-to-face with patient and/or family.
- 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 (i.e., time spent on history, examination, and medical decision making when used for the E/M service is not psychotherapy time).
- Time may not be used as the basis of E/M code selection.
- The E/M service and the psychotherapy service may be for the same diagnosis.

For Passport claims processing, psychotherapy add-on services with an E/M code need to be submitted on the same claim for the same date-of-service to identify the visit as a psychiatric service. Without an appropriate psychotherapy add-on code, the E/M code may be denied for a service that requires a Passport referral if the claim is submitted without a referral number; E/M services appropriately reported with a psychotherapy add-on service will not require a Passport referral.

Providers should reference the 2013 CPT® coding book, CPT® Assistant, CPT® Changes 2013: *An Insider's View*, or the American Medical Association website for instructional notes on how to bill the psychotherapy add-on codes with their appropriate E/M code.

Contact Information

If you have any questions about this provider notice, please contact Marcia Armstrong at (406) 444-2878 or marmstrong@mt.gov, or Laura Taffs at (406) 444-3814 or ltaffs@mt.gov.

For claims questions or additional information, contact Provider Relations at 1-800-624-3958 (toll-free, in/out of state) or (406) 442-1837 (Helena) or via e-mail at MTPRHelpdesk@xerox.com.

Visit the Provider Information website at <http://medicaidprovider.hhs.mt.gov>.