



December 15, 2016

Montana Healthcare Programs Notice

Psychologists, Social Workers, Licensed Clinical Professional Counselors, Mental Health Centers, and Psychiatrists

Effective January 1, 2017

Billing and Code Clarification for Psychotherapy and Psychiatric Diagnostic Services

This notice is to provide clarification in regard to the reporting of individual psychotherapy, family therapy, group therapy, and psychiatric diagnostic procedures.

Effective January 1, 2017, individual psychotherapy codes (90832 – 90838) can be reported on the same date of service as family psychotherapy (90846, 90847) as long as the services are performed at different times and are a separate and distinct service. The following was taken from the National Correct Coding Initiative Edits, chapter XI, page 8:

“CPT codes 90832-90838 include all psychotherapy of a patient with family members as informants, if present, for a single date of service. Family psychotherapy, (e.g., CPT codes 90846, 90847) focused on the patient addressing interactions between the patient and family members may be reported separately with psychotherapy CPT codes 90832-90838 on the same date of service if performed as a separate and distinct service during a separate time interval”.

Effective January 1, 2017, psychiatric diagnostic codes (90791 and 90792) cannot be reported on the same day as the psychotherapy codes (CPT codes 90832 – 90853). Psychotherapy codes have an ongoing assessment and evaluation component and, therefore, are not reportable with the diagnostic codes on the same date of service. The following was taken from the National Correct Coding Initiative Edits, chapter XI, page 8:

“Since psychotherapy includes continuing psychiatric evaluation, procedure codes 90791 and 90792 are not separately reportable with individual, group, family, crisis, or other psychotherapy codes for the same date of service.”

Contact Information

If you have any questions, please contact Barbara Canning-Graziano, Clinical Program Manager, at 406-444-9330 or BGraziano@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 Montana Healthcare Programs Provider Information website at <http://medicaidprovider.mt.gov/>.