

Smoking and Tobacco Use Cessation Counseling Billing Code Update For Medicare Reimbursement



ATTENTION:

Physicians and providers who bill Medicare contractors (fiscal intermediaries (FI), carriers, or Medicare Administrative contractors (A/BMAC)) for smoking and tobacco use cessation counseling.

REGARDING:

Two new CPT codes in the 2008 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Database have replaced two temporary HCPCS G codes for Smoking and Tobacco Use Cessation Counseling claims. Please disregard outdated information on the Fax-To-Quit Louisiana Program Training Materials.

Effective Date: January 1, 2008 [Note: Effective Date is date of service]

Implementation Date: July 7, 2008

According to CR 5878, for Smoking and Tobacco Use Cessation Counseling services provided on or after January 1, 2008, physicians and providers must bill for cessation counseling services with new CPT codes (99406 or 99407). Billing using the former HCPCS codes (G0375 and G0376) for services provided after December 31, 2007, will not be paid.

- CPT 99406 - Smoking and tobacco-use cessation counseling visit; intermediate, greater than 3 minutes up to 10 minutes; and
- CPT 99407 - Smoking and tobacco-use cessation counseling visit; intensive, greater than 10 minutes

HCPCS and Diagnosis Coding

The following HCPCS codes should be reported when billing for smoking and tobacco- use cessation counseling services:

- 99406 - Smoking and tobacco-use cessation counseling visit; intermediate, greater than 3 minutes up to 10 minutes
- 99407 - Smoking and tobacco-use cessation counseling visit; intensive, greater than 10 minutes

Note the above codes are payable for dates of service on or after January 1, 2008. Codes G0375 and G0376, below, are not valid or payable for dates of service on or after January 1, 2008.

Carrier Billing Requirements

Carriers shall pay for counseling services billed with codes 99406 and 99407 for dates of service on or after January 1, 2008. Carriers shall pay for counseling services billed with codes G0375 and G0376 for dates of service performed on and after March 22, 2005 through Dec. 31, 2007.

FI Billing Requirements

FIs shall pay for Smoking and Tobacco-Use Cessation Counseling services with codes 99406 and 99407 for dates of service on or after January 1, 2008. FIs shall pay for counseling services billed with codes G0375 and G0376 for dates of service performed on or after March 22, 2005 through December 31, 2007.

Claims for Smoking and Tobacco-Use Cessation Counseling Services should be submitted on Form CMS-1450 or its electronic equivalent.

Additional Information

You can find CR 5878 at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R1433CP.pdf> on the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) website. You will find the updated Medicare Claims Processing Manual, Chapter 32 (Billing Requirements for Special Services), Sections 12.1(HCPCS and Diagnosis Coding), 12.2 (Carrier Billing Requirements), and 12.3 (FI Billing Requirements) as an attachment to that CR.