

EFFECTIVE DATE: 01 | 01 | 2019

POLICY LAST UPDATED: 07 | 02 | 2019

OVERVIEW

The intent of this policy is to provide information regarding credentialing for outpatient professional behavioral health providers, document provider specialty restrictions for CPT codes, and provide medical record documentation requirements for Behavioral Health Providers.

PRIOR AUTHORIZATION

Notification of admission or preauthorization may be required for some behavioral health outpatient professional services. Contact BCBSRI's Behavioral Health Vendor at 800-274-2958.

POLICY STATEMENT

Credentialing:

BCBSRI credentials the following independently licensed behavioral health clinicians:

- Psychiatrists (MD, DO)
- Psychiatric Neurologist (MD, DO)
- Child/Adolescent Psychiatrist (MD, DO)
- Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS)
- Nurse Practitioner-Behavioral Health (NP)
- Psychologists (PhD, PsyD)
- Licensed Independent Clinical Social Workers (LICSW)
- Licensed Mental Health Counselors (LMHC)
- Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists (LMFT)
- Licensed Behavior Analysts (LBA)

Only independently licensed behavioral health clinicians may render services to a BCBSRI member in an outpatient professional setting. Providers with a provisional license are not eligible for credentialing. BCBSRI does not have a supervisory protocol arrangement whereby a Master's-level clinician can render services under a supervising clinician with an independent license. BCBSRI does not allow for a Master's-level (non-independently licensed) clinician to render services to our members in an outpatient professional setting. BCBSRI does not credential Licensed Clinical Social Workers (LCSWs).

BCBSRI does not credential Licensed Chemical Dependency Professionals (LCDP). LCDPs who render services in a contracted substance use disorder facility may be eligible for reimbursement in accordance with the facility's agreement with BCBSRI.

Coding:

Unless specified in a specific payment policy, BCBSRI follows correct coding and payment guidelines published by National and Regional CMS (including DMEMAC) and other correct coding national standards such as Current Procedural Terminology (CPT). Please refer to the Coding and Payment Guidelines policy for additional details. All services rendered should be in accordance with correct coding.

Provider specialty restrictions exist for CPT codes for behavioral health services as defined in the coding grids below.

Behavioral Health Services Provided to Children Under the Age of 18:

BCBSRI recognizes that the evaluation of children/adolescents often takes longer than adults and requires additional collateral contacts that further differentiate this population. Effective, for dates of service on or after January 1,2013 , BCBSRI allows providers to file with a modifier “TU” Special Payment Rate, Overtime for extended psychiatric diagnostic interview examination (90791TU and 90792TU) for children under the age of 18. Extended services are defined as psychiatric diagnostic interview/examinations that extend longer than 75 minutes for our members under 18 years of age.

Medical Record Documentation requirements

Please see the attached document that provides the Behavioral Health Medical Record Documentation standards

[Documentation Standards](#)

MEDICAL CRITERIA

Not applicable

COVERAGE

Benefits may vary between groups/contracts. Please refer to the appropriate Evidence of Coverage or Subscriber Agreement for applicable Behavioral Health Services for benefits and applicable deductibles and/ or co-payments.

CODING

The following is applicable for BlueCHiP for Medicare and Commercial Products.

Provider Specialty	CPT Code Name	CPT Code	Comments
Psychologist, Independent Clinical Social Worker , *Marriage/Family Therapist *Mental Health Counselor *Can not provide services to Medicare Members	Psychiatric Diagnostic Evaluation	90791	
	Psychotherapy	90832, 90834, 90837	
	Interactive Complexity Add On Code	90785	Must be billed with appropriate primary procedure per CPT coding guidelines
	Psychotherapy Crisis	90839	
		90840	
	Family/Group Therapy	90846, 90847, 90849, 90853, 90857	
	Health Behavior Assessment/Intervention	96150-96155	
	Psychological and Neuro-Psychological Testing	Refer to Psychological and Neuropsychological Testing policy CPT coding details	These codes are limited to the following specialties: <i>Neuropsychologist, Psychologist, or Pediatric neurodevelopmental specialist , see the Psychological and Neuropsychological Testing policy for additional details</i>
	Psychiatric Diagnostic Evaluation	90791	
Psychotherapy	90832, 90834, 90837		

	Interactive Complexity - Add On Code	90785	Must be billed with appropriate primary procedure per CPT coding guidelines
	Psychotherapy Crisis	90839, 90840	
	Family/Group Therapy	90846, 90847, 90849, 90853, 90857	

Provider Specialty	CPT Code Name	CPT Code	Comments
Psychiatry/MD , Psychiatric Neurologist , Child/Adolescent Psychiatry/MD , Clinical Nurse Specialist , Nurse Practitioner -Behavioral Health	Psychiatric Diagnostic Evaluation	90791	
	Psych Diagnostic Medical	90792	
	Psychotherapy	90832, 90834, 90837	
	Psychotherapy/E/M Add On codes	90833, 90836, 90838	Must be billed with appropriate primary procedure per CPT coding guidelines
	E/M Codes	99201 through 99443	
	Interactive Complexity Add On Code	90785	Must be billed with appropriate primary procedure per CPT coding guidelines
	Psychotherapy Crisis	90839 90840	
	Family/Group Therapy	90846, 90847, 90849, 90853, 90857	
	Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS)		Requires either a notification of admission (in-network) or prior authorization (out of network) through Behavioral Health Vendor.
	Health Behavior Assessment/Intervention	96150-96155	
	Electro Convulsive Therapy (ECT)	90870	
	Psychological and Neuro-Psychological Testing	96105, 96110, 96112, 96113, 96116, 96121, 96125, 96130, 96131, 96132, 96133, 96136, 96137, 96138, 96139, 96146	These codes are limited to the following specialties: <i>Neuropsychologist</i> <i>Psychologist, or</i> <i>Pediatric neurodevelopmental specialist , see the</i> Psychological and Neuropsychological Testing policy for additional details

Provider Specialty	CPT Code Name	CPT Code	Comments
Licensed Behavior Analyst (LBA)	Applied Behavior Analysis Codes. See Autism Spectrum Disorders Mandate Policy for additional details	Please refer to Autism Spectrum Disorders Mandate Policy for details on CPT coding.	LBAs are only allowed to file Claims for the codes in this code set. See Autism Spectrum Disorders Mandate Policy for additional details

RELATED POLICIES

- Health and Behavior Assessment
- Psychological and Neuropsychological Testing
- Autism Spectrum Disorders Mandate
- Telemedicine
- Preventative Services for Commercial
- Coding and Payment Guidelines
- Credentialing Process for New Providers
- Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation

PUBLISHED

- Provider Update September 2019
- Provider Update November/December 2018
- Provider Update January 2018
- Provider Update March 2013

CLICK THE ENVELOPE ICON BELOW TO SUBMIT COMMENTS

This medical policy is made available to you for informational purposes only. It is not a guarantee of payment or a substitute for your medical judgment in the treatment of your patients. Benefits and eligibility are determined by the member's subscriber agreement or member certificate and/or the employer agreement, and those documents will supersede the provisions of this medical policy. For information on member-specific benefits, call the provider call center. If you provide services to a member which are determined to not be medically necessary (or in some cases medically necessary services which are non-covered benefits), you may not charge the member for the services unless you have informed the member and they have agreed in writing in advance to continue with the treatment at their own expense. Please refer to your participation agreement(s) for the applicable provisions. This policy is current at the time of publication; however, medical practices, technology, and knowledge are constantly changing. BCBSRI reserves the right to review and revise this policy for any reason and at any time, with or without notice. Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

