



**EFFECTIVE DATE:** 08|1|2012

**POLICY LAST UPDATED:** 11|21|2017

### OVERVIEW

Genetic counselors are health care providers who have graduate training in genetics and counseling. Genetic counselors work as a member of a healthcare team to provide information and support to people with possible genetic disorders. The goal of genetic counseling is to educate people about the chances of passing on or having a genetic disorder.

### MEDICAL CRITERIA

Not applicable.

### PRIOR AUTHORIZATION

Not applicable.

### POLICY STATEMENT

#### BlueCHiP for Medicare and Commercial

Genetic counseling is a covered service. See the Preventive Services for Commercial policy for services related to BRCA testing for breast cancer.

### COVERAGE

Benefits may vary between groups and contracts. Please refer to the appropriate Benefit Booklet, Evidence of Coverage or Subscriber Agreement for applicable physician office visit benefits/coverage.

### BACKGROUND

Not applicable.

### CODING

#### BlueCHiP for Medicare and Commercial

96040 Medical genetics and genetic counseling services, each 30 minutes face-to-face with patient/family

**The following code should not be used; claims should be filed with 96040**

S0265 Genetic counseling, under physician supervision, each 15 minutes

### RELATED POLICIES

None.

### PUBLISHED

Provider Update, January 2018

Provider Update, July 2012

### REFERENCES

None.

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