



**EFFECTIVE DATE:** 01 | 24 | 2004

**POLICY LAST UPDATED:** 12 | 02 | 2008

## OVERVIEW

Health and behavior assessment procedures are used to identify the psychological, behavioral, emotional, cognitive, and social factors important to the prevention, treatment, or management of physical health problems. The focus of the assessment is not on mental health, but on the biopsychosocial factors important to physical health problems and treatments.

## MEDICAL CRITERIA

Not applicable.

## PRIOR AUTHORIZATION

Not applicable.

## POLICY STATEMENT

### For BC for Medicare and Commercial Products

Health and behavior assessment/intervention services are covered and are limited to the following provider specialties, psychologist (spec. code 062), Clinical Social Worker (LICSW) (spec. code 042), Marriage and Family Therapist (MFT) (spec. code 078), and Mental Health Counselor (MHC) (spec. code 077).

If psychiatric services and health and behavior services (are rendered on the same date of service, by the same provider, report the predominant service performed.

If a health and behavioral assessment/intervention service and a psychiatric services procedure code are filed by the same provider, for the same date of service, only the first submitted service (or predominant diagnosis) will pay. The second service filed should deny as provider billing error.

## COVERAGE

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

## BACKGROUND

Not applicable.

## CODING

These services will require only one copayment per date of services (not unit).

The following codes are **medically necessary**:

- 96150** Health and behavior assessment (e.g., health-focused clinical interview, behavioral observations, psychophysiological monitoring, health-oriented questionnaires), each 15 minutes face-to-face with the patient; initial assessment
- 96151** Health and behavior assessment (e.g., health-focused clinical interview, behavioral observations, psychophysiological monitoring, health-oriented questionnaires), each 15 minutes face-to-face with the patient; re-assessment
- 96152** Health and behavior intervention, each 15 minutes, face-to-face; individual
- 96153** Health and behavior intervention, each 15 minutes, face-to-face; group (2 or more patients)
- 96154** Health and behavior intervention, each 15 minutes, face-to-face; family (with the patient present)

**96155** Health and behavior intervention, each 15 minutes, face-to-face; family (without the patient present)

Health and behavior assessment/intervention services (codes 96150, 96151, 96152, 96153, 96154, and 96155) are invalid procedure codes (not member liability) if the diagnosis is for a psychiatric condition.

### **RELATED POLICIES**

Behavioral Health Services

### **PUBLISHED**

Policy Update, July 2004

Policy Update, February 2007

Policy Update, February 2009

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