

**INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO. 2082-MC-FFS**

**DATE:** January 3, 2020

**TO:** Iowa Medicaid Behavioral Health Service Providers

**APPLIES TO:** Managed Care (MC) and Fee-for-Service (FFS)

**FROM:** Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS), Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

**RE:** Health Behavior Assessment and Intervention Services Code Updates

**EFFECTIVE:** January 1, 2020

The new current procedural terminology (CPT®) codes have been released with changes in 2020 to include new CPT codes and guidelines added for health behavior assessment and intervention services. Effective January 1, 2020, procedure codes 96150, 96151, 96152, 96153, 96154, and 96155 are no longer valid for health behavioral and intervention services under the Iowa Medicaid FFS and MC programs. Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) codes 96156, 96158, 96159, 96164, 96165, 96167, 96168, 96170 and 96171 should be billed for dates of service on or after January 1, 2020.

Health behavior assessment and intervention services are used to identify and address the psychological, behavioral, emotional, cognitive, and interpersonal factors important to the assessment, treatment, or management of physical health problems. The member's primary diagnosis must be physical in nature and the focus of the assessment and intervention is on factors complicating the medical conditions and treatments. These codes describe assessments and interventions to improve the member's health and well-being utilizing psychological and/or psychosocial procedures designed to ameliorate specific disease-related problems.

**Assessment Services (CPT code 96156)**

Health behavior assessment, or re-assessment, includes evaluation of the member's responses to disease, illness or injury, outlook, coping strategies, motivation, and adherence to medical treatment that is conducted through health-focused clinical interviews, observation and clinical decision-making.

Assessment services are now event-based and CPT code 96156 is billed only once per day regardless of the amount of time required to complete the overall service.

- Only report 96156 for assessment of a member with a primary diagnosis that is physical in nature.
- Do not report 96156 on the same day as psychiatric services (90785-90899) or adaptive behavior services (97151-97158, 0362T, 0373T).
- For members that require psychiatric services or adaptive behavior services, as well as health behavior assessment/intervention, report the predominant service performed

### **Intervention Services (CPT codes 96158, 96159, 96164, 96165, 96167, 96168 and 96170, 96171)**

Intervention services include promotion of functional improvement, minimization of psychological and/or psychosocial barriers to recovery, and management of and improved coping with medical conditions. These services emphasize active member/family engagement and involvement. Intervention services may be provided to:

- An individual and is billed with CPT codes 96158 and 96159;
- A group of two or more members and is billed with CPT codes 96164, and 96165 for each individual member in the group;
- A family, with the member present, and is billed with CPT codes 96167 and 96168; or
- A family, or without the member present, and is billed with CPT codes 96170, and 96171.

### **Individual Intervention**

CPT code 96158 is reported for the initial 30 minutes of individual intervention and code 96159 is reported in conjunction with code 96158 for each additional 15 minutes needed to complete the intervention service.

- Only report add-on code 96159 in conjunction with 96158.
- Do not report 96158 for less than 16 minutes of service.
- Do not report 96159 for less than 8 minutes of service.
- Do not report 96158/96159 on the same day as psychiatric services (90785-90899) or adaptive behavior services (97151-97158, 0362T, 0373T).
  - For members that require psychiatric services or adaptive behavior services, as well as health behavior assessment/intervention, report the predominant service performed.

### **Family Intervention WITH member present**

CPT codes 96167 and 96168 have been added to report face-to-face family health behavior intervention. In order to report these codes the member **must** be present.

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- Code 96167 is reported for the first 30 minutes of service and code 96168 is reported for each additional 15 minutes needed to complete the family intervention service.
- Only report add-on code 96168 in conjunction with 96167.
- Do not report 96167 for less than 16 minutes of service.
- Do not report 96168 for less than 8 minutes of service.

- Do not report 96167/96168 on the same day as psychiatric services (90785-90899) or adaptive behavior services (97151-97158, 0362T, 0373T).
  - For members that require psychiatric services or adaptive behavior services, as well as health behavior assessment/intervention, report the predominant service performed.
- If the member is not present, refer to CPT codes 96170 and 96171.

Evaluation and Management (E/M) services codes, including counseling risk factor reduction and behavior change intervention (99401-99412), should not be reported on the same day as health behavior assessment and intervention codes by the same provider:

- These services can occur and be reported on the same date of service as long as the E/M service (99401-99412) is performed by a physician or other qualified health care professional (QHP) who may report evaluation and management services.
- However, health behavior assessment and/or intervention services performed by a physician or other QHP who may report E/M services should do so using codes found in the E/M Services or Preventive Medicine Services sections of the CPT® Manual.

HEALTH & BEHAVIOR INITIAL ASSESSMENT AND RE-ASSESSMENT		HEALTH BEHAVIOR ASSESSMENT OR RE-ASSESSMENT	
2019 CPT Code	2019 CPT Code Description	2020 CPT Code	2020 CPT Description
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 member; initial assessment	96156	Health behavior assessment or re-assessment (e.g., health-focused clinical interview, behavioral observations, clinical decision making)
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 member; re-assessment		
96152	Health and behavior intervention, each 15 minutes, face-to-face; individual	96158	Health behavior intervention, individual, face-to-face; initial 30 minutes
		96159	Health behavior intervention, individual, face-to-face; each additional 15 minutes (List

			separately in addition to code for primary service)
96153	Health and behavior intervention, each 15 minutes, face-to-face; group (2 or more members)	96164	Health behavior intervention, group (2 or more members), face-to-face; initial 30 minutes
		96165	Health behavior intervention, group (2 or more members), face-to-face; each additional 15 minutes (List separately in addition to code for primary service)
96154	Health and behavior intervention, each 15 minutes, face-to-face; family (with the member present)	96167	Health behavior intervention, family (with the member present), face-to-face; initial 30 minutes
		96168	Health behavior intervention, family (with the member present), face-to-face; each additional 15 minutes (List separately in addition to code for primary service)
96155	Health and behavior intervention, each 15 minutes, face-to-face; family (without the member present)	96170	Health behavior intervention, family (without the member present), face-to-face; initial 30 minutes
		96171	Health behavior intervention, family (without the member present), face-to-face; each additional 15 minutes (List separately in addition to code for primary service)

## Iowa Medicaid Health Behavior Assessment and Intervention Code Crosswalk (Rates Effective January 1, 2020)

### Non-Facility

Current 2019 CPT Code	Units	New 2020 CPT Code	Units	01 - Hospital	02 - Physician MD	03 - Physician DO	29 - Psychologist	50 - Nurse Practitioner	62 - Behavioral Health
96150	15 min	96156	Encounter		\$249.60	\$249.60	\$249.60	\$212.16	\$551.76
96151	15 min								
96152	15 min	96158	30 min		\$38.16	\$38.16	\$38.16	\$32.44	\$45.28
96152	15 min	96159	15 min		\$19.08	\$19.08	\$19.08	\$16.22	\$22.65
96153†	15 min	96164	30 min	\$9.48			\$9.48		\$11.40
96153	15 min	96165	15 min	\$4.74			\$4.74		\$5.70
96154	15 min	96167	30 min	\$36.16			\$36.16		\$52.72
96154	15 min	96168	15 min	\$18.08			\$18.08		\$26.36
96155	15 min	96170	30 min	By Report			By Report		Not Allowed
96155	15 min	96171	15 min	By Report			By Report		Not Allowed

†Even though Provider Type 99 is not listed here, these changes apply to code 96153 billed under HD and AIDS/HIV Waivers.

## Iowa Medicaid Health Behavior Assessment and Intervention Code Crosswalk (Rates Effective January 1, 2020)

### Facility

Current 2019 CPT Code	Units	New 2020 CPT Code	Units	02 - Physician MD	03 - Physician DO	29 - Psychologist	50 - Nurse Practitioner	62 - Behavioral Health
96150	15 min	96156	Encounter	\$237.96	\$237.96	\$237.96	\$202.26	\$526.44
96151	15 min							
96152	15 min	96158	30 min	\$36.26	\$36.26	\$36.26	\$30.82	\$43.02
96152	15 min	96159	15 min	\$18.13	\$18.13	\$18.13	\$15.41	\$21.51
96153†	15 min	96164	30 min			\$8.80		\$10.54
96153	15 min	96165	15 min			\$4.40		\$5.27
96154	15 min	96167	30 min			\$35.54		\$50.00
96154	15 min	96168	15 min			\$17.77		\$25.00
96155	15 min	96170	30 min					
96155	15 min	96171	15 min					

†Even though Provider Type 99 is not listed here, these changes apply to code 96153 billed under HD and AIDS/HIV Waivers.