

DATE – 06.07.23

TO: LCSW, LMHC, LMSW, AND LMFT

RE: MEDICAID MANAGED CARE PLAN UPDATE - NYSDOH

SERVICE COVERAGE CHANGES – MEDICAID, HIV SNP, AND HARP

SUMMARY

Effective 4/1/23 for Medicaid Managed Care (MMC) Plans, NYS Medicaid will reimburse Licensed Clinical Social Workers (LCSWs), Licensed Mental Health Counselors (LMHCs), and Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists (LMFTs) in private practice settings.

- LCSWs, LMHCs, and LMFTs must be enrolled with the NYS Medicaid FFS program to receive reimbursement for services. To enroll in the NYS Medicaid FFS program LCSWs, LMHCs, and LMFTs must be licensed and registered by the New York State Department of Education (NYSED).
- LCSWs, LMHCs, and LMFTs must provide all services within their scope of practice, as defined by NYSED.
- Licensed Master Social Workers (LMSWs) may provide all social work services within their scope of practice when under the supervision of an LCSW, licensed psychologist, or psychiatrist.

***LIMITED PERMIT HOLDERS:** NYS Medicaid also reimburses for services provided by individuals with a limited permit and whose services are provided within NYSED scope of practice.

- LCSWs for services rendered by LCSW limited permit holders and LMSW limited permit holders under the supervision of an LCSW.
- LMHCs for services rendered by LMHC limited permit holders under the supervision of an LMHC.
- LMFTs for services rendered by LMFT limited permit holders under the supervision of an LMFT.

*(Note: limited permit holders cannot enroll in NYS Medicaid).

BILLING LIMITATION FOR SERVICES PROVIDED BY LIMITED PERMIT HOLDERS

- Services provided by an LMSW or an LCSW/LMSW with a limited permit may be claimed by the supervising LCSW with the National Provider Identification (NPI) of the supervising LCSW reported as the attending provider.
- Services provided by an LMFT or LMHC with a limited permit may be claimed by the supervising LMFT or LMHC, respectively, with the NPI of the supervising provider reported as the attending provider.

BILLING LIMITATIONS FOR SERVICES PROVIDED IN ARTICLE 28 FACILITIES

- When billing for LCSW, LMSW, LMHC, and LMFT services provided in an Article 28 clinic, the NPI of the practitioner should be identified as the attending provider. Additionally, the Article 28 clinic must affiliate the NPI of the practitioner in eMedNY.
- LCSWs and LMSWs can only provide individual psychotherapy to individuals under 21 years of age and pregnant women up to 12 months postpartum (based on the date of delivery or end of pregnancy) in these settings.
- Payment to the clinic includes the cost of services provided by an LCSW, LMSW, LMHC, and LMFT; a professional claim cannot be billed.

BILLING FOR SERVICES PROVIDED IN ARTICLE 28 FACILITIES AND SCHOOL BASED HEALTH CENTERS BY LMHCs and LMFTs

Effective April 1, 2023, MMC plans will reimburse for services provided by LMHCs and LMFTs within the scope of their practice as defined by NYS Education Department (NYSED).

- Article 28 hospital outpatient departments (OPDs) should use the below listed rate codes for mental health counseling when provided by LMHCs and LMFTs.

Rate Code	Rate Description
4222	Individual LMHC/LMFT Services 20 to 30 minutes with patient
4223	Individual LMHC/LMFT Services 45 to 50 minutes with patient
4224	Family Services LMHC/LMFT with or without patient present

- School-Based Health Centers (SBHCs) should use below listed rate codes when billing for mental health counseling when provided by LMHCs and LMFTs.

Rate Code	Rate Description
3260	SBHC-Individual LMHC/LMFT Service 20 to 30 minutes with patient
3261	SBHC-Individual LMHC/LMFT Service 45 to 50 minutes with patient
3262	SBHC-Family Services LMHC/LMFT with or without patient present

- Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) that have opted out of APGs should bill the PPS rate.
- **Note:** Free-standing diagnostic and treatment centers cannot yet bill for these services; approval from CMS is pending.

For affiliation instructions, providers can refer to the eMedNY section of the website where facilities record with [NYS Medicaid program NPIs and licenses of practitioners](#). Additional NYS Medicaid billing guidance can be found on the [eMedNY "Information for All Providers" web page](#)