

DATE: 12.05.23

TO: METROPLUSHEALTH PROVIDERS

RE: COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER SERVICES FOR PREGNANT AND POSTPARTUM MEMBERS

IMPACTED PLANS: MEDICAID, HARP, AND HIV SNP

SUMMARY

RETROACTIVE: Effective October 1, 2023, MetroPlusHealth will reimburse Community Health Worker (CHW) services* for pregnant and postpartum populations. **Medicaid members are eligible for CHW services during pregnancy and up to 12 months after the end of pregnancy, regardless of how the pregnancy ends.**

Community Health Worker (CHW)

A CHW is a public health worker who functions as a liaison between healthcare systems, social services, and community-based organizations to improve overall access to services and resources and to facilitate improved health outcomes for the populations served. CHW services may be provided on an individual or group basis.

CHW Services Do NOT Include:

- Clinical case management/care management services that require a license, including Comprehensive Medicaid Case Management services.
- The provision of companion services/socialization, respite care, transportation, direct patient care, personal care services/homemaker services (e.g., chore services including shopping, cleaning, and cooking, assistance with activities of daily living, errands), or delivery of medication, medical equipment, or medical supplies
- Services that duplicate another covered Medicaid service
- Services outside the level of training the CHW has attained.
- Advocacy for issues not directly related to the Medicaid member's health or social care needs.
- Language interpretation services
- Time and activities that do not include direct engagement with the Medicaid member.

A CHW is not recognized as a licensed or certified NYS Medicaid provider. To be eligible for reimbursement, CHW services must be delivered under the supervision of a Medicaid enrolled, licensed billable provider with an active National Provider Identification (NPI).

*Physician referral order is required. The service must be recommended by a physician or other health care practitioner.

CHW services can be billed by the following Provider types:

- Clinic
- Hospital Outpatient Department (OPDs)
- Physician
- Midwife
- Nurse Practitioner (NP)
- Psychologist
- Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW)
- Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC)
- Licensed Marriage Family Therapist (LMFT)

Medicaid Billing Guidelines

- Article 28 freestanding clinics and hospital OPDs can bill for CHW services using the codes below on Ambulatory Patient Groups (APG) claim.
- Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) may bill for CHW services *only* if the FQHC has elected to be reimbursed under APGs when the CHW service is provided in conjunction with a threshold visit with a licensed health care provider.
- When billing for CHW services, **modifiers U1 and U3 must be included consecutively, in this order** with the applicable CPT code.

| CPT Code/Modifier | Code Description | Annual Units Limits |
|---------------------|--|---|
| 98960/U1, U3 | Self-management education and training face-to-face using a standardized curriculum for an individual NYS Medicaid member, each 30 minutes. | Total 12 units (30 minutes = 1 unit) |
| 98961/U1, U3 | Self-management education and training face-to-face using a standardized curriculum for two to four NYS Medicaid members, each 30 minutes. | |
| 98962/U1, U3 | Self-management education and training face-to-face using a standardized curriculum for five to eight NYS Medicaid members, each 30 minutes. | |

For Questions and Additional Information:

Additional information can be found in the [Community Health Worker Services Policy Manual](#). Fee-for-service claim questions should be directed to the eMedNY Call Center at (800) 343-9000. FFS coverage & policy questions should be directed to MaternalandChild.HealthPolicy@health.ny.gov.

*Physician referral order is required. The service must be recommended by a physician or other health care practitioner.