

PCSS Guidance

Topic: Physician billing for office-based treatment of opioid dependence

Office-based treatment is regular medical care provided in regular settings by regular physicians. Therefore, billing procedures are regular ones.

The ICD-9 Code for opioid dependence is 304.0x. The fifth (x) digit sub-classifications are: 0=unspecified, 1=continuous, 2=episodic, 3=in remission

Physicians code for professional services using billing codes developed by the AMA. Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes are developed by consensus panels and updated regularly. All payers accept CPT billing codes.

There are no Addiction Medicine-specific CPT codes. Addiction medicine physician services for inpatient detoxification, outpatient detoxification, and office-based maintenance, are the same as codes for other ambulatory care services.

Non Psychiatric Physicians use CPT codes they are accustomed to using for outpatient 'evaluation and management':

- Outpatient New Patient (99201-05)
- Outpatient Consultation (99241-45)
- Outpatient Established Patient Revisit (99211-15)

Psychiatrists usually chose to use regular psychiatric CPT codes

- Outpatient New Patient (90801)
- Outpatient Consultation (99251-55)
- Outpatient Medication Management (90862)
- Outpatient Psychotherapy (90804-09)
- Outpatient Group Psychotherapy (90853)

Psychiatrists' CPT codes are time-based. Other physicians' CPT codes are complexity-of-service based. Services for office-based treatment of opioid dependence provided within the context of Intensive Outpatient Services can use Group Therapy codes, but most physicians will submit an MD/DO-specific charge instead of having charges wrapped into IOP charges.