

10/21/2022

Hello REDC Members,

Here is this week's policy update.

REMINDER!

CPT Coding and Billing Changes for Mental Health: What to Expect for Calendar Year 2023

- The Association for Behavioral Health and Wellness, the American Psychological Association, and the American Psychiatric Association are pleased to present “CPT Coding and Billing Changes for Mental Health: What to Expect for Calendar Year 2023”
- **Join us for a webinar on Thursday, October 27th, from 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm ET.**
- [CLICK Here](#) to register
- Webinar Overview:
 - Dr. Stephen Gillaspay, PhD, Senior Director, Health & Health Care Financing, at the American Psychological Association, will lead the presentation on the policy changes proposed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in the [Calendar Year 2023 Physician Fee Schedule proposed rule](#). The webinar will focus on new CPT codes as well as changes to existing codes, the expansion of outpatient Evaluation and Management (E/M) documentation guidelines to the facility setting, and other CMS proposals such as “incident to” billing that, if implemented, will have a significant impact on mental and behavioral clinicians beginning January 1, 2023.
 - Dr. Gillaspay will be joined by Ms. Becky Yowell, Director, Reimbursement Policy and Quality at the American Psychiatric Association, and Ms. Meghann Dugan-Haas, Coding and Payment Policy Officer at the American Psychological Association.
- After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

TELEHEALTH

New Findings Show Telehealth Expansion Has Not Led to Overutilization

- Consulting group Teus Health released findings earlier this week that pandemic-era policies to expand telehealth haven't increased the number of patient services Medicare pays for.
 - The number of virtual and in-person patient visits Medicare covered in 2021 remained below 2019 levels.

- In-person and virtual care had almost identical rates of repeat visits for the same medical issue, at just over 20%. The study also found consistent rates between chronic and emergent conditions.
- The findings could counter concerns that continuing telehealth flexibilities beyond the COVID-19 public health emergency is too expensive.
- Congress has already authorized extending telehealth waivers and other favorable policies for five months after the end of the emergency designation. The Congressional Budget Office predicted the extension could cost the government \$663 million.

CDC Data Shows Urban Adults and Women More Likely to Use Telehealth

- According to new data from the CDC, 37% of adults used telemedicine within the past 12 months.
- Women were more likely to report telehealth use, with 42% using telemedicine compared with 31.7% of men.

Bipartisan Policy Center Releases Report on Telehealth Policy Changes for the Future

- The [report](#) aims to support future telehealth optimization by detailing Medicare usage trends and providing recommendations for policymakers.

Story Collection on Insurance Discrimination

- Please continue to submit your stories on insurance discrimination.
- Please provide examples for a payer/plan(s) discriminatory practice in covering eating disorders care over the last three years.
- **The next batch of stories will be sent to the Department of Labor in early December.**
- Complete the survey here: <https://forms.gle/wSYoKoTN56YHGHLw9>.

Have a great weekend!

Center Road Solutions