



OUTPATIENT SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER SERVICES FEE-FOR-SERVICE

Brief Coverage Statement

Outpatient Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Fee-For-Service (FFS) Treatment Services are available for the treatment of substance use disorders for clients who are not enrolled with a Behavioral Health Organization (BHO).

Medicaid provides outpatient SUD services administered and managed through BHOs. Most clients receive outpatient SUD services through the BHO. This benefit is available to the small percentage of clients not enrolled in a BHO, who need to access their services in “regular” or FFS Medicaid.

This standard outlines the services available on a FFS basis.

Services Addressed in Other Policies

- Services provided through Behavioral Health Organizations
- Pharmacy Benefit
- Mental Health Fee-For-Service Services

Eligible Providers

Licensed physicians who are also:	Licensed non-physicians who are also:	Facilities
Certified in addiction medicine by the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM), Or Certified Addiction Counselors (CAC II or CAC III) or Licensed Addiction Counselors (LAC) by Department of Regulatory Affairs (DORA), Or Certified by the National Association of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselors (NAADAC) as an NCAC II or MAC, Or Certified in addiction psychiatry by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology certified in Addiction Psychiatry (ABPN) Or, MD and CAC II, CAC III, NCAC II, or MAC.	Psychologist, PhD, Nurse Practitioner, LCSW, LPC, or LAC And one or both of the following: Certified by DORA as a CAC II or CAC III, Or Certified by NAADAC as an NCAC II or MAC.	Licensed to provide substance use disorder treatment services by the Office of Behavioral Health (OBH).



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Eligible Clients

- 1) Clients must currently be enrolled in Colorado Medicaid
- 2) Clients must not be eligible for enrollment in the Community Behavioral Health Services program pursuant to 10 C.C.R. 2505-10, Section 8.212.*

***Note- The majority of Medicaid clients are enrolled in a BHO and must receive services from a BHO network provider. This benefit is available to the small percentage of clients not enrolled in a BHO, who need to access their services in “regular” or fee-for-service Medicaid.**

Clients receiving these services are not required to obtain a referral from their Primary Care Provider (PCP) or Primary Care Medical Provider (PCMP).

Covered Services and Limitations

Services are available to clients seeking treatment for any of the following disorders and conditions:

- Alcohol (use or induced) disorders
- Amphetamine (use or induced) disorders
- Cannabis (use or induced) disorders
- Cocaine (use or induced) disorders
- Hallucinogen (use or induced) disorders
- Inhalant (use or induced) disorders
- Opioid (use or induced) disorders
- Phencyclidine (use or induced) disorders
- Sedative Hypnotic or Anxiolytic (use or induced) disorders.
- Tobacco Use Disorder

SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER ASSESSMENT

- Substance use disorder assessment is an evaluation designed to determine the most appropriate level of care, based on criteria established by the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM), the extent of drug/alcohol use, abuse or dependence and related problems, and the comprehensive treatment needs of a client with a SUD diagnosis.
- Assessments may involve more than one session, but are limited to three encounter based units per State fiscal year (July 1-June 30).

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- For billing purposes report the last day of evaluation (if it spans more than one day) as the date of service.
- Re-assessments should be spaced appropriately throughout this time period in order to ensure that the treatment plan is effectively managing the client's changing needs.
- Course of treatment and changes in level of care should be based on the six assessment dimensions of ASAM Patient Placement Criteria, which include:
 - Withdrawal potential
 - Medical conditions/complications
 - Emotional, behavioral or cognitive conditions and complications
 - Readiness to change
 - Relapse, continued use or continued problem potential
 - Recovery/living environment

INDIVIDUAL AND FAMILY THERAPY

- Individual and family counseling/therapy is the planned treatment of a client's problem(s) as identified by an assessment and listed in the treatment/service plan. The intended outcome is the management, reduction/resolution of the identified problem(s).
- Therapeutic SUD counseling and treatment services are limited to one client per session.
- Family therapy must be directly related to the client's treatment for SUD and/or dependence
- Individual/family therapy is limited to 35 sessions per State fiscal year, and billed at 15 minutes per unit, with up to four units (one hour) per session. A session is considered a single encounter with the client that can encompass multiple timed units

GROUP THERAPY

- Group therapy refers to therapeutic SUD counseling and treatment services, administered through groups of people who have similar needs, such as progression of disease, stage of recovery, and readiness for change.
 - Must include more than one client
- Group therapy is limited to 36 sessions per State fiscal year. A session of group therapy can last between one to three hours and is billed in units of one hour each (a three hour group session would consist of three units).

ALCOHOL/DRUG SCREENING - URINALYSIS

- Alcohol/drug screening is the collection and analysis of urine to test for the presence of alcohol and/or drugs.
 - SUD counseling services to discuss the screening results with the client must be provided.

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- Alcohol/ drug screening is limited to 52 specimen collections per State fiscal year.

CASE MANAGEMENT (TARGETED)

- Targeted case management refers to coordination and planning services provided with, or on behalf of, a client with a SUD diagnosis.
- Services may include service planning, advocacy and linkage to other appropriate medical services related to SUD diagnosis, monitoring and care coordination.
- SUD case management services are limited to 52 contacts per State fiscal year.

SOCIAL/AMBULATORY DETOXIFICATION

- Social/ambulatory detoxification services are provided by a facility licensed by OBH. Such services are:
 - Provided on a residential basis, excluding room and board
 - Include supervision, observation and support from qualified personnel for individuals exhibiting intoxication/ withdrawal symptoms
 - Provided when there is minimal risk of severe withdrawal (including seizures and delirium tremens) and when any co-occurring mental health/medical conditions can be safely managed in an ambulatory setting
- Social ambulatory detoxification is limited to five sessions, each lasting three days, per State fiscal year.

MEDICATION-ASSISTED TREATMENT (MAT)

- MAT consists of administration, management, and oversight of methadone or another approved controlled substance to an opiate dependent person for the purpose of decreasing or eliminating dependence on opiate substances.
 - MAT reimbursement is limited to one unit per date of service.*

***Note: the drugs themselves are billed fee-for-service pharmacy and are not included in the MAT benefit.**

Procedure Coding for Outpatient SUD FFS Services

- Please refer to the Outpatient Substance Abuse Treatment billing manual, [found here](#), for a complete list of allowable procedure codes for billing the specific SUD services outlined in this document.



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Prior Authorization Requirements

- There are no prior authorization requirements for outpatient SUD and dependency treatment services
- **Note:** Complete billing instructions can be found in the Colorado Specialty Billing Manual

Non-Covered Services and General Limitations

Non-Covered Outpatient SUD FFS Services

- Day treatment program services
- Inpatient hospital SUD treatment
- Intensive outpatient psychiatric rehabilitation
- Peer advocate services
- Residential treatment, excluding Pediatric Residential Treatment Facilities
- Court-ordered DUI services



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Definitions

Term	Definition
Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)	An entity that has entered into an agreement with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to meet Medicare program requirements under 42 CFR §§ 405.2434 and meets at least one of the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Is receiving a grant under section 329, 330, or 340 of the Public Health Service Act, or is receiving funding from such a grant under a contract with the recipient of such a grant and meets the requirements to receive a grant under section 329, 330 or 340 of the Public Health Service Act;2. Based on the recommendation of the Public Health Service, is determined by CMS to meet the requirements for receiving such a grant;3. Was treated by CMS as a comprehensive federally funded health center (FFHC) as of January 1, 1990; or4. Is an outpatient health program or facility operated by a tribe or tribal organizations under the Indian Self-Determination Act or by an Urban Indian organization receiving funds under Title V of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act.
Masters Level Clinician	A licensed clinical social worker (as defined in CRS 12-43-404), licensed marriage and family therapist (as defined in CRS 12-43-504), licensed professional counselor (as defined in CRS 12-43-603), or advanced practice nurse (as defined in CRS 12-38-111.5).
Physician/Psychiatrist	Provider has a Doctor of Medicine or Osteopathic Medicine degree, engages in the practice of medicine as defined by, and is licensed as a physician pursuant to, the Colorado Revised Statutes (CRS) at CRS 12-36-101.
Physician Assistant	Provider is a graduate of an education program accredited by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, certified by the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants, and licensed as a physician assistant pursuant to CRS 12-36-106.



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Term	Definition
Psychologist, Psy.D/PhD	Provider has a doctoral degree from an accredited program offering psychology courses approved by the American Psychological Association and is licensed as a psychologist by the State Board of Psychologist Examiners pursuant to CRS 12-43-304.
Case Management (Targeted)	Targeted Case Management means medically necessary coordination and planning services provided with or on behalf of a client with a substance abuse diagnosis (as defined in 10 CCR 2505-10 8.746.1)
Day treatment program services	Behavioral Health (BH) Day Treatment is a non-residential treatment program designed for children and adolescents under the age of 21 who have emotional, behavioral, and neurobiological/SUD problems and may be at high-risk for out-of-home placement. Day Treatment services include psychotherapy (family, group, individual); parent-client education; skill and socialization training focused on improving functional and behavioral deficits, and intensive coordination with schools and/or other child service agencies.
Inpatient Hospital SUD Treatment	Organized service delivered by medical and nursing professionals in a facility licensed as a hospital by the State. Provides for 24-hour medically directed evaluation and withdrawal management in an acute care inpatient setting, specifically designed for acute medical detoxification and substance use disorder treatment.
Intensive outpatient psychiatric rehabilitation	Intensive Outpatient Psychiatric (IOP) Services focus on maintaining and improving functional abilities for the client through a time-limited, multi-faceted approach to treatment.
Peer advocate services	This is a scheduled therapeutic activity lead by a trained client who is self identified as receiving behavioral health services.
Residential treatment, excluding Pediatric Residential Treatment Facilities	A short-term residential treatment program offering 24-hour intensive residential treatment, habilitative, and rehabilitative services for up to 30 days in a highly structured, community-oriented environment.

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References

American Society of Addiction Medicine. ASAM PPC-2R: ASAM Patient Placement Criteria for the Treatment of Substance Abuse-Related Disorders. 2001.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts MassHealth Provider Manual: Substance Abuse Treatment Manual. Effective 1 July 2006.

Michigan Department of Community Health: Medicaid Provider Manual. Effective July 2010.

Riekman, et al. "Adoption of practice guidelines and assessment tools in substance abuse treatment". March 2010. *Substance Abuse Treatment Prevention and Policy*: 5(4).

United Behavioral Health, PacifiCare Behavioral Health, and US Behavioral Health Plan, California. 2010 Level of Care Guidelines: Substance Abuse.

US Dept of Health and Human Services - Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Consensus Panel. Treatment Improvement Protocol 41: Substance Abuse Treatment – Group Therapy. 2005.

Washington State Dept of Social and Health Services: Outpatient Hospital Services Billing Instructions (WAC 388-550). Effective 9 May 2010.

10 C.C.R 2505-10 8.746 Outpatient Substance Abuse Treatment

CO-1500: Colorado Specialty Billing Manual

2013 Uniform Service Coding Standards Manual

2013 Substance Use Disorder Uniform Coding Standards Manual

Medicaid Director Signature

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