



Psychological and Neuropsychological Testing Reimbursement Policy

Policy Number	2019RP501A	Annual Approval Date	1/31/2019	Approved By	Optum Behavioral Reimbursement Committee
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IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT THIS REIMBURSEMENT POLICY

You are responsible for submission of accurate claims. This reimbursement policy is intended to ensure that you are reimbursed based on the procedure code or codes that correctly describe the health care services provided to individuals whose behavioral health benefits are administered by Optum, including but not limited to UnitedHealthcare members. This reimbursement policy is also applicable to behavioral health benefit plans administered by OptumHealth Behavioral Solutions of California.

Our behavioral health reimbursement policies may use Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®), Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) or other procedure coding guidelines. References to CPT or other sources are for definitional purposes only and do not imply any right to reimbursement. This reimbursement policy applies to all health care services billed on CMS 1500 forms and, when specified, to services billed on the UB-04 claim form and to electronic claim submissions (i.e., 837p and 837i) and for claims submitted online through provider portals. Coding methodology, clinical rationale, industry standard reimbursement logic, regulatory issues, business issues and other input in developing reimbursement policy may apply.*

This information is intended to serve only as a general reference resource regarding our reimbursement policy for the services described and is not intended to address every aspect of a reimbursement situation. Accordingly, Optum may use reasonable discretion in interpreting and applying this policy to behavioral health care services provided in a particular case. Further, the policy does not address all issues related to reimbursement for behavioral health care services provided to members. Other factors affecting reimbursement may supplement, modify or, in some cases, supersede this policy. These factors may include, but are not limited to: member's benefit coverage, provider contracts and/or legislative mandates. Finally, this policy may not be implemented exactly the same way on the different electronic claim processing systems used by Optum due to programming or other constraints; however, Optum strives to minimize these variations.

Optum may modify this reimbursement policy at any time by publishing a new version of the policy on this website. However, the information presented in this policy is accurate and current as of the date of publication.

Optum uses a customized version of the Claim Editing System known as iCES Clearinghouse to process claims in accordance with our reimbursement policies.

**CPT® is a registered trademark of the American Medical Association*

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Applicability

This reimbursement policy applies to all health care services billed on CMS 1500 forms and, when specified, to services billed on the UB-04 claim form and to electronic claim submissions (i.e., 837p and 837i) and for claims submitted online through provider portals. This policy applies to all products, all network and non-network physicians and other qualified health care professionals, including, but not limited to, non-network authorized and percent of charge contract physicians and other qualified health care professionals.



Policy

Overview and Reimbursement Guidelines

Optum has adopted the standards set by the American Psychological Association (APA) in regards to billing the new psychological and neuropsychological testing codes. Providers must bill the primary primary procedure along with the Add-on code on the same claim even though the dates of service may differ.

CPT Codes and Description for Psychological and Neuropsychological Testing Evaluation Services

Primary CPT Code	Description	Add-on CPT Code	Description
96130	Psychological testing evaluation services by physician or other qualified health care professional, including integration of patient data, interpretation of standardized test results and clinical data, clinical decision making, treatment planning and report and interactive feedback to the patient, family member(s) or caregiver(s), when performed, first hour	96131	Psychological testing evaluation services, by physician or other qualified health care professional, each additional hour
96116	Neurobehavioral status exam (clinical assessment of thinking, reasoning and judgment, [eg, acquired knowledge, attention, language, memory, planning and problem solving, and visual spatial abilities]), by physician or other qualified health care professional, both face-to-face time with the patient and time interpreting test results and preparing the report; first hour	96121	Neurobehavioral status exam (clinical assessment of thinking, reasoning and judgment, [eg, acquired knowledge, attention, language, memory, planning and problem solving, and visual spatial abilities]), by physician or other qualified health care professional, both face-to-face time with the patient and time interpreting test results and preparing the report; each additional hour
96132	Neuropsychological testing evaluation services by physician or other qualified health care professional, including integration of patient data, interpretation of standardized test results and clinical data, clinical decision making, treatment planning and report, and interactive feedback to the patient, family member(s) or caregiver(s) when performed, first hour	96133	Neuropsychological testing evaluation services by physician or other qualified health care professional, each additional hour
96136	Psychological or neuropsychological test admin and scoring by physician or other qualified health care professional, two or more tests, any method, first 30 minutes	96137	Psychological or neuropsychological test admin and scoring by physician or other qualified health care professional, two or more tests, any method, each additional 30 minutes
96138	Psychological or neuropsychological test admin and scoring by technician, two or more tests, any method, first 30 minutes	96139	Psychological or neuropsychological test admin and scoring by technician, two or more tests, any method, each additional 30 minutes



Resources

- American Psychological Association
- American Medical Association, Current Procedural Terminology (CPT[®]) and associated publications and services

History / Updates

August, 2019	Language clarification to Overview Section and Reimbursement Guidelines Section
January, 2019	New policy

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