

7/30/2020

Behavioral Health Providers: Family Therapy Now Covered For Medi-Cal Patients

Dear Provider,

Family therapy is now a Medi-Cal covered benefit. Per Medi-cal Bulletin from June 2020:

"Family therapy is reimbursable for treatment of mental health conditions in children and adults. Family therapy is also reimbursable for prevention of mental health conditions in children with specified risk factors. For more information, refer to the Psychological Services section of the appropriate Part 2 manual."

To qualify:

1. Family therapy must be rendered by an appropriate provider.
2. Members 21 and older must have a DSM diagnosis. For those under 21, without a DSM diagnosis, a qualifying risk factor (z code) may be used.
3. Evidence-based practice must be used for family therapy treatment.
4. At least one family member participating.
5. Clinical documentation demonstrates family therapy is a medically necessary treatment.

For more information, including applicable procedure codes for billing, please see the *Medi-cal Provider Handbook*, *Psychological Services* section: files.medi-cal.ca.gov/pubsdoco/Manuals_menu.aspx

As a reminder, always remember to check the most current HPSM Prior Authorization requirements for services on our website here: <https://www.hpsm.org/provider/authorizations>.

If you have any questions please reach out to the HPSM Provider Services Department at PSInquiries@hpsm.org.

Thanks for all you do,
Health Plan of San Mateo