

To:

All Providers

HMOs and Other
Managed Care
Programs

Wisconsin Medicaid tobacco cessation services

This *Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Update* reiterates current policy regarding tobacco cessation treatment services.

Evaluation and management services

Wisconsin Medicaid covers medically necessary tobacco cessation services as part of an evaluation and management (E&M) office visit provided by physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, and ancillary staff. Services must be one-on-one, face-to-face between the provider and recipient. Wisconsin Medicaid does not cover group sessions or telephone conversations between the provider and recipient under the E&M procedure codes. Best medical judgment determines the number of allowable office visits.

Ancillary staff can provide tobacco cessation services only when under the direct, on-site supervision of a Medicaid-certified physician. When ancillary staff provide tobacco cessation services, Wisconsin Medicaid reimburses up to a level-two office visit (*Current Procedural Terminology* procedure code 99212). The supervising provider is required to be listed as the performing provider on the CMS 1500 claim form.

Outpatient substance abuse services

Under the outpatient substance abuse benefit, Wisconsin Medicaid covers medically

necessary substance abuse counseling services related to tobacco cessation provided by physicians, Ph.D. psychologists, and AODA counselors (including Master's-level therapists). Wisconsin Medicaid covers substance abuse counseling on an individual and group basis. Refer to the July 2002 *Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Update* (2002-42), titled "Maximum allowable fees increase for mental health or substance abuse outpatient services," for a summary of Wisconsin Medicaid's coverage policy, including prior authorization (PA) requirements.

Outpatient mental health services

Under the outpatient substance abuse benefit, Wisconsin Medicaid covers medically necessary diagnostic evaluations and psychotherapy related to tobacco cessation provided by psychiatrists, Ph.D. psychologists, and Master's-level therapists. Wisconsin Medicaid covers psychotherapy on an individual and group basis. Refer to *Update 2002-42* for a summary of Wisconsin Medicaid's coverage policy, including PA requirements.

Prescription drugs

Wisconsin Medicaid covers legend drugs for tobacco cessation and asks pharmacists to strongly recommend that recipients enroll in a counseling program. Nicotine gum or patches available over the counter are not covered services. Refer to the Pharmacy Handbook for

lists of covered prescription drugs, covered patches, and diagnosis restrictions.

Information regarding Medicaid HMOs

This *Update* contains Medicaid fee-for-service policy and applies to providers of services to recipients on fee-for-service Medicaid only. For Medicaid HMO or managed care policy, contact the appropriate managed care organization. Wisconsin Medicaid HMOs are required to provide at least the same benefits as those provided under fee-for-service arrangements.

The *Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Update* is the first source of program policy and billing information for providers.

Although the *Update* refers to Medicaid recipients, all information applies to BadgerCare recipients also.

Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare are administered by the Division of Health Care Financing, Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services, P.O. Box 309, Madison, WI 53701-0309.

For questions, call Provider Services at (800) 947-9627 or (608) 221-9883 or visit our Web site at www.dhfs.state.wi.us/medicaid/.