

Memo

Date: 12/31/2024

To: Alameda County Behavioral Health Department (ACBHD) Providers of Behavioral Health Services (SMHS & DMC-ODS)

From: Karen Capece Program Director, Quality Management *Karen Capece*
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Subject: Telephone Evaluation and Management (E/M) Code Changes, Effective 1/1/2025

This memo is to inform providers of ACBHD SMHS and DMC-ODS services of changes to codes 99441-99443, effective 1/1/2025.

Background of the Issue

CPT codes 99441-99443 (telephone evaluation and management by a physician or a physician extender, i.e., physician assistant, clinical nurse specialist or nurse practitioner) will no longer be valid to report services rendered on or after 1/1/25.

To replace these codes, the AMA has created 98008-98011 (audio-only telemedicine visits for new patients) and 98012-98015 (audio-only telemedicine visits for established patients) as replacements. However, these replacement codes are brand new and do not currently exist in Medi-Cal's Short-Doyle Medi-Cal (SDMC) claims processing system. As a result, neither the state nor counties will be able to correctly program these brand-new codes by 1/1/2025. DHCS has indicated that the new codes and rates will be communicated to counties by 3/31/2025 and will be available in SDMC on 7/1/2025.

Temporary Correction

As temporary guidance between 1/1/2025 to 6/30/2025, DHCS is advising providers to use H2017 in SMHS and H0001 in DMC-ODS to report telephone evaluation and management.

Support

Providers are invited to join monthly QA Brown Bag meetings where this and other relevant information are discussed. Meeting details and link can be found on the [QA Training page](#).

For questions, please contact QATA@acgov.org.