



QRTIPS

Health Care Agency • Behavioral Health Services • CYS Quality, Review & Training

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Medi-Cal will not reimburse for the following activities:

Billing for specialty mental health services while the client is in the psychiatric hospital.

The exception to this is discharge planning. The progress notes must clearly be labeled “**Discharge Planning**,” reflect discharge planning as a stand-alone note and meet the following criteria: 1) direct contact with hospital staff; 2) arranging for out of home placement (not returning to the same placement/group home); and if applicable 3) consultation with receiving agency staff concerning transition to their new placement. **Scheduling aftercare appointments, collateral support services and consultation with own staff or updating SSA social worker are not billable under discharge planning.**

Billing for scheduling or missed appointments.

Billing for services that occur from the time that the client is arrested and throughout the time that the client is in Juvenile Hall. This would also apply to clients who are “runaways” from their residence (i.e., home or group home.)

Billing for clerical activities such as faxing, copying or any other activities that an office support person could perform.

Billing for services that are solely for educational or vocational activities (i.e., tutoring, doing homework, employment searching for the client, downloading information off the internet for the client, etc)

Billing Medi-Cal for treatment services during the 30/60 day assessment period without a CSP.

If immediate mental health treatment is necessary during the assessment phase, a “Non-Assessment Services Treatment Plan”, specifying the type of services, must be completed before any treatment is provided.

Billing assessment CPT codes past the 30/60 day period.

Billing Medi-Cal for services with an excluded diagnosis.

The exception to this is if the excluded diagnosis is rendered on the **first assessment** session because it has been determined that the client **does not have an included diagnosis**. Crisis interventions session **can never be billed to Medi-Cal** in cases where an excluded diagnosis is rendered.

Billing CPT codes for travel time between certified Medi-Cal clinics.

Billing travel time for missed appointments.

This includes situations in which TBS coaches travel to a location to provide services and the consumer is not available and no service is provided.

Billing for supervision of interns.

There is a distinction between **consultation** and **supervision**. It would be acceptable to bill Medi-Cal when the primary therapist consults with the treating psychiatrist to clarify diagnosis or provide an update on the client’s treatment progress. However, a student intern discussing psychological testing approaches with the supervising psychologist would not be billable since this is clearly a supervision session.

Two interns consulting with one another regarding treatment approaches for the purpose of learning would not be billable to Medi-Cal.

Billing for translations services

A therapist translating sessions for another mental health professional, while of benefit to the client, are not billable to Medi-Cal.