



STATE OF MARYLAND
DHMH

Office of Health Services
Medical Care Programs

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
201 W. Preston Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Martin O'Malley, Governor – Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor – Joshua M. Sharfstein, Secretary

MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
Substance Use Disorder Transmittal No. 13
December 15, 2014

TO: Physicians Providing Buprenorphine Services
Managed Care Organizations
ValueOptions

FROM: Susan J. Tucker, Executive Director
Office of Health Services

RE: Medicaid Billing and Enrollment for Physicians Providing Buprenorphine Services

NOTE: **Please ensure that the appropriate staff members in your organization are informed of the content of this transmittal.**

For dates of service after 12/31/2014, managed care organizations (MCOs) will not be responsible for payment to providers delivering substance use disorder (SUD) services as listed in the updated COMAR 10.09.70, available at: <http://www.dsd.state.md.us/MDRegister/4120.pdf>. These services will instead be authorized and reimbursed by the Department's Administrative Services Organization (ASO), ValueOptions (VO). The following information further clarifies billing procedures for individual physicians properly enrolled with Medicaid. There will be separate transmittals related to other provider types.

Physicians Providing Buprenorphine Services

Individual physicians with a DATA 2000 waiver provide buprenorphine services to participants with an opioid substance use disorder. If the physician serves as the participant's primary care provider (PCP), the provider should continue to bill the office-based service to the participant's MCO. If the physician provides buprenorphine treatment to an individual for whom they are not the PCP, they must follow the billing procedures outlined below to receive reimbursement from the ASO.

Please note other physician services (for example physician services provided by doctors in hospital settings) are still the responsibility of the MCO.

Buprenorphine

Starting January 1, 2015, Maryland Medicaid will carve out Substance Use Disorder medications from HealthChoice MCOs. They will be covered by fee-for-service in the same way as mental health and HIV medications. Currently most MCOs cover the generic version of Suboxone tablets on their formulary, whereas FFS has Suboxone Film as preferred on our Preferred Drug List (PDL). Therefore, prescriptions after January 1 for tablets will require preauthorization by the prescriber. In order for your patients to have a smooth transition, we are requesting that if you currently have patients on the Suboxone tablets who need to refill their prescriptions on or any time after January 1, 2015, to consider prescribing the Suboxone Film to avoid future denials due to the PDL prior authorization requirement.

Billing Procedures

Physicians providing buprenorphine treatment to participants may bill for these services using the Evaluation and Management codes appropriate to the service. The Public Behavioral Health System fee schedule on the ValueOptions website lists these codes and the associated rates, found under the Claims/Finance section of the ValueOptions website:

http://maryland.valueoptions.com/provider/prv_info.htm

Medicaid Enrollment and ValueOptions Registration

In order to ensure continuity of care and to receive authorization and Medicaid payment for SUD services delivered after 12/31/2014, providers must complete the following before January 1, 2015:

1. Enroll with Maryland Medicaid as a physician provider type 20; and
2. Register with ValueOptions through the ProviderConnect system.

If you wish to confirm whether you have an active Medicaid number, please contact DHMH.BHEnrollment@Maryland.gov.

To register with ValueOptions, please call **1-800-888-1965**; providers may press option 6 then option 8 for the consult line.

Additional Information

The Department encourages you to participate in training opportunities hosted by ValueOptions. For more information on provider trainings, please visit the ValueOptions Integration site at <http://maryland.valueoptions.com/whats-new.htm>.

To sign up for Provider Alerts from ValueOptions, please send an email to marylandproviderrelations@valueoptions.com.

To review a list of Frequently Asked Questions regarding the ASO Transition, please see <http://maryland.valueoptions.com/whats-new.htm>.