



STATE OF MARYLAND


DHMH

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

*Larry Hogan, Governor - Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor - Van Mitchell, Secretary*

**MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**  
**ADAA Certified Substance Use Disorder Treatment Transmittal No. 2**  
**Laboratories Transmittal No. 66**  
**Managed Care Organizations Transmittal No. 109**  
**Opioid Treatment Providers No. 3**  
**ValueOptions Transmittal No. 5**  
**December 21, 2015**

TO: ADAA Certified Substance Use Disorder Treatment Providers  
Laboratories  
Managed Care Organizations  
Opioid Treatment Providers  
ValueOptions

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

RE: Community-based Medical Laboratory Billing for Substance Use Disorder  
Drug Screening/Testing for Calendar Year 2016

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

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The purpose of this transmittal is to provide notice of changes Medicaid is making in coding and payment for drug presumptive testing and drug testing codes beginning January 1, 2016. In response to recent changes implemented by Medicare, Maryland Medicaid will discontinue coverage of the following G codes: G0431, G0434 and G6030 through G6058. In addition, Maryland Medicaid will continue to not cover 80300 and 80377. This transmittal will also clarify which claims should be submitted to ValueOptions® and which claims should be billed to the appropriate managed care organization (MCO) or Medicaid fee-for-service (FFS) if the patient is not enrolled in an MCO.

**Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Services Carve Out**

On January 1, 2015 SUD treatment services were carved out of the MCO benefit package and Medicaid began covering SUD services through ValueOptions®. To bill for SUD services, Behavioral Health (BH) Providers must enroll with Medicaid and register with ValueOptions®. BH providers delivering services to those with a primary SUD diagnosis must obtain authorization from ValueOptions® and submit payments to ValueOptions®.

When ordering carved out SUD laboratory screening/testing services, the provider may refer patients to any community-based Medical Laboratory that is enrolled with Medicaid and is registered with ValueOptions®.

Beginning on January 1, 2016, Maryland Medicaid will cover three presumptive testing codes (G0477, G0478 and G0479). Only **one** of the three presumptive G codes may be billed per day. Please note that G0478 and G0479 require laboratory equipment and therefore only enrolled laboratories will be allowed to bill these codes. For definitive testing, four G codes have been created (G0480 through G0483). Only **one** of the four definitive G codes may be billed per day. Please note that it would be unusual for providers to order the third and fourth codes in this series so the Department will be carefully reviewing and auditing the use of these codes. The Department will also be reviewing all codes to ensure that lab services are not being over utilized. Enrolled laboratories should bill the seven drug testing codes to ValueOptions® beginning with dates of service after December 31, 2015.

Procedure Code	Service Description	Payment Rate
<b>Presumptive Drug Testing</b>	Only G0477 may be billed by CLIA waived providers, the other codes must be sent to Labs.	
G0477	Drug test(s), presumptive, any number of drug classes; any number of devices or procedures, (eg, immunoassay) capable of being read by direct optical observation only (eg, dipsticks, cups, cards, cartridges), includes sample validation when performed, per date of service	\$11.81
G0478	Drug test(s), presumptive, any number of drug classes; any number of devices or procedures, (eg, immunoassay) read by instrument-assisted direct optical observation (eg, dipsticks, cups, cards, cartridges), includes sample validation when performed, per date of service	\$15.75
G0479	Drug test(s), presumptive, any number of drug classes; any number of devices or procedures by instrumented chemistry analyzers (eg, immunoassay, enzyme assay, TOF, MALDI, LDTD, DESI, DART, GHPC, GC mass spectrometry), includes sample validation when performed, per date of service	\$63.00
<b>Drug Testing</b>	Must be performed by Labs only.	
G0480	Drug test(s), definitive, utilizing drug identification methods able to identify individual drugs and distinguish between structural isomers (but not necessarily stereoisomers), including, but not limited to GC/MS (any type, single or tandem) and LC/MS (any type, single or tandem and excluding immunoassays (eg, IA, ELISA, EMIT, FPIA) and enzymatic methods (eg, alcohol dehydrogenase)); qualitative and quantitative, all sources, includes specimen validity testing, per day, 1-7 drug class(es), including metabolite(s) if performed.	\$63.55
G0481	Drug test(s), definitive, utilizing drug identification methods able to identify individual drugs and distinguish between structural isomers (but not necessarily stereoisomers), including, but not limited to GC/MS (any type, single or tandem) and LC/MS (any type, single or tandem and excluding immunoassays (eg, IA, ELISA, EMIT, FPIA) and enzymatic methods (eg, alcohol dehydrogenase)); qualitative and	\$97.78

	quantitative, all sources, includes specimen validity testing, per day, 8-14 drug class(es), including metabolite(s) if performed.	
G0482	Drug test(s), definitive, utilizing drug identification methods able to identify individual drugs and distinguish between structural isomers (but not necessarily stereoisomers), including, but not limited to GC/MS (any type, single or tandem) and LC/MS (any type, single or tandem and excluding immunoassays (eg, IA, ELISA, EMIT, FPIA) and enzymatic methods (eg, alcohol dehydrogenase)); qualitative and quantitative, all sources, includes specimen validity testing, per day, 15-21 drug class(es), including metabolite(s) if performed.	\$131.99
G0483	Drug test(s), definitive, utilizing drug identification methods able to identify individual drugs and distinguish between structural isomers (but not necessarily stereoisomers), including, but not limited to GC/MS (any type, single or tandem) and LC/MS (any type, single or tandem and excluding immunoassays (eg, IA, ELISA, EMIT, FPIA) and enzymatic methods (eg, alcohol dehydrogenase)); qualitative and quantitative, all sources, includes specimen validity testing, per day, 22 or more drug class(es), including metabolite(s) if performed.	\$171.10

*Note: All laboratory tests must be clinically indicated. ValueOptions® is in the process of developing best practice guidelines due for release in mid-2016.*

### **Submitting Claims Laboratory Billing Guidelines**

Only the laboratory tests outlined above are included in the behavioral health carve out for SUD diagnoses. ValueOptions® will only pay these codes. If providers require additional lab testing for patient care and the patient is enrolled in an MCO, the treating provider must refer the patient to a laboratory that contracts with that patient's MCO. Please contact the patient's MCO to access a list of contracted laboratories.

### **G0477 Drug Presumptive Testing Services Performed by Behavioral Health Providers**

Behavioral health providers with the appropriate lab permit and CLIA credentials may be reimbursed for drug presumptive testing services using the G0477 code **only**. Providers must be enrolled with Medicaid and registered with ValueOptions® as one of the following behavioral health providers:

Provider Type 50	Certified Addictions Programs
Provider Type 27	Mental Health Group Therapy Providers
Provider Type MC	Outpatient Mental Health Clinics
Provider Type 20 with a 52 or 53 specialty code	Psychiatrists
Provider Type 20	Physicians with a DATA 2000 wavier

Other laboratory services may be reimbursed through an approved Maryland Medicaid laboratory provider. Providers who have not billed ValueOptions® for drug-screening services should confirm that their provider file is complete and demonstrates valid credentials. Providers may email [dhmh.bhenrollment@maryland.gov](mailto:dhmh.bhenrollment@maryland.gov) for further guidance on submitting this documentation.

**Drug Testing Services Performed by Non-Behavioral Health Providers**

Somatic care providers who order any of the SUD drug testing listed on the SUD fee schedule (other than the G0477 code) must refer the patient to a Medicaid participating community-based fee-for-service medical laboratory. The Medical Laboratory should bill ValueOptions® for the carved out codes as described in the chart on page 2 and 3 of this transmittal.

Some somatic providers may perform basic drug screenings using the G0477 code for reasons unrelated to behavioral health. In these cases, claims should be submitted to the appropriate MCO or Medicaid FFS system. If billing the MCO for the service, the somatic provider should make sure they are in-network in order to assure receipt of payment.

If you have any questions regarding this transmittal, please contact the Behavioral Health Unit at Medicaid: [dhmf.bhenrollment@maryland.gov](mailto:dhmf.bhenrollment@maryland.gov)