



PROVIDER ALERT

SUD BENEFITS FOR DUAL MEDICARE/MEDICAID PARTICIPANTS

AUGUST 21, 2015

This provider alert clarifies Medicaid coverage of substance use disorder (SUD) services for participants with dual Medicaid and Medicare benefits.

SUD Benefits for the Dually-Eligible

Maryland reimburses authorized SUD program providers for services delivered to individuals with full Medicaid benefits, including those with dual Medicaid/Medicare coverage. These dually-eligible individuals are not enrolled in Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) but are managed under Medicaid fee for service. As with all Medicaid participants, behavioral health program providers should submit claims with the appropriate H code to the Administrative Services Organization, ValueOptions.

Billing for SUD Services

SUD programs **must obtain pre-authorization** from ValueOptions in order to submit claims for payment. As the payer of last resort, Medicaid generally requires proof of denial or partial payment by any other payers, including Medicare, prior to reimbursement of a claim. **However** because Medicare does not cover most SUD services, Medicaid does **not** require SUD program providers to receive denials for SUD services found on the SUD fee schedule. Providers who have received appropriate authorization from ValueOptions should submit claims using the appropriate H code as listed on the SUD fee schedule to ValueOptions for payment. Providers do not need to submit claims to Medicare to await a denial as it is not required for these non-Medicare covered SUD services.

Partial Medicaid Coverage

Medicaid reimburses SUD services only for individuals with full Medicaid benefits. Those with partial coverage such as Medicare Savings Programs are not eligible for reimbursement of substance use disorder services, including the following coverage groups:



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- Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary (SLMB) Program
- Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB) Program

For purposes of behavioral health services, these individuals should be treated as uninsured. See below for Uninsured Process.

Billing for SUD services for the Uninsured including those with Partial Medicaid Coverage (designated by SDUL)

State and federal grant funds are provided to each local county and to Baltimore City to directly provide services or contract with treatment programs for those in the above categories and the uninsured. These services can be accessed by consumers/clients through their local addictions authority by contacting the jurisdiction's health department (or, in Baltimore City, contacting Behavioral Health System Baltimore).

Please note **programs must be under contract with the local addictions authority** to receive reimbursement for SUD services for the uninsured.

Checking Eligibility Status

To verify a participant's Medicaid eligibility, a provider may either visit the e-Medicaid website: <https://encrypt.emdhealthchoice.org/emedicaid> or call the Eligibility Verification System (EVS) at 1-866-710-1447.

Benefits may also be determined through the ValueOptions ProviderConnect system. When a consumer has "FDUL" as their benefit, they have full Medicaid coverage. If the consumer's benefit lists as "SDUL" then they have SLMB/QMB coverage and Maryland Medicaid will not cover these services.