



CAHC Program Current Procedural Terminology Codes Guidance Content Relevant to: All Models

Introduction

The most frequently used Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) codes are reported annually in the Clinical Reporting Tool (CRT). The compiled codes offer a glimpse into the frequently recorded CPT® codes used across state-funded Child & Adolescent Health Center (CAHC) program models. Appropriate use of CPT® codes ensures that providers are operating according to the standards of practice for clinical services. In addition, appropriate coding increases the likelihood that services will be reimbursed by third party payors.

The following summary may serve as a useful tool for providers. **It does not mean that these codes are required, recommended, or suggested.** Rather this is an effort to share “wisdom from the field” that may be useful. Remember that the individual clinician is always responsible for ensuring they are using the most accurate and appropriate CPT® billing code when billing for services provided, regardless of who bills on the clinician’s behalf.

CPT® Codes

The American Medical Association (AMA) refers to CPT® as a set of medical codes used to describe the procedures and services performed. CPT® codes are used to report procedures and services to payors for reimbursement of rendered healthcare services, and for management purposes such as to track performance measurement. The codes provide valuable information to administrators, quality managers, providers, payors and accreditation organizations.

CPT® codes consist of five characters. The majority of codes are numeric, but some have a fifth alpha character, such as F, T, or U. The AMA updates the CPT® code set annually, as well as releases changes to codes and coding guidelines.

Category I Codes

Category I codes represent existing services or procedures widely used. There are six main sections; however, most services rendered across CAHC program models would fall into the following categories:

- Evaluation & Management Services (99201 – 99499)
- Pathology and Laboratory Services (80047 – 89398)
- Medical Services and Procedures (90281 – 99607)

Category II Codes

Category II codes are supplemental tracking and performance measurement codes that providers can use in addition to Category I codes. They usually consist of four numbers and the letter F. Unlike Category I codes, Category II codes are not linked to reimbursement. Providers use Category II codes to help them deliver better healthcare and achieve better outcomes for patients.

Commonly-Reported CPT® Codes across CAHC Program Models

- **99213** Office visit, established patient, level III
- **96127** Brief emotional/behavioral assessment with scoring
- **90832** Individual psychotherapy, 30 minutes: Non-facility-64.84*
- **90834** Individual psychotherapy, 45 minutes: Non-facility-85.97*
- **90460** Immunization administration, through age 18, face-to-face counseling

*Non-facility refers to location in which the services are provided outside of a facility. Facility is only a hospital, surgical center or skilled nursing facility.

Helpful Tips (Where We Commonly See Errors)

- The correct code for administration of a risk assessment (such as the RAAPS) is 96160
- The correct code for administration of the PHQ-A is 96127
- Review [immunize.org](https://www.immunize.org) each influenza season for the correct codes for influenza vaccines
- F-codes may be useful as tracking codes for some Quality Measures
- School Wellness Program models report codes from the mental health provider *only*

Resources

American Medical Association (AMA) CPT®: Finding Coding Resources

<https://www.ama-assn.org/practice-management/cpt/finding-coding-resources>

American Academy of Professional Coders (AAPC) What is CPT®?

<https://www.aapc.com/resources/medical-coding/cpt.aspx>

CDC Free Online ICD10-CM Coding Tool

<https://icd10cmtool.cdc.gov/?fy=FY2019>

Free Online CPT Coding Tool

<https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/license/cpt-license.aspx?from=~/-overview-and-quick-search.aspx&npage=/medicare-coverage-database/downloads/downloadable-databases.aspx>

AAP Adolescent Preventative Healthcare Coding Sheet

https://www.aap.org/en-us/Documents/coding_factsheet_adolescenthealth.pdf

AAP Coding for Preventative Health Care Services 2019

https://www.aap.org/en-us/Documents/coding_preventive_care.pdf