



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, M.D., Secretary

Maryland Medical Assistance Program  
Managed Care Organization Transmittal No. 87  
Substance Abuse Transmittal No. 3  
September 14, 2011

TO: Methadone Maintenance Clinics  
Managed Care Organizations

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

RE: Clarification of the Substance Abuse Transmittal No. 2

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

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The purpose of this memorandum is to clarify a statement that was directed to Methadone Maintenance providers in the Medical Assistance Program Substance Abuse Transmittal No. 2, dated December 22, 2009.

Effective January 1, 2010, community based Office of Health Care Quality (OHCQ) - certified addictions programs paid the following payment rates for the following five services:

Procedure Codes	New Rates
H0001 SA assessment	\$142 per assessment
H0004 Individual counseling	\$20 per 15 minute increments (maximum of 6 units per day)
H00005 Group counseling	\$39 per 60 to 90 minute session
H0015 Intensive outpatient	\$125 per diem (minimum 2 hours of service per session, maximum of 4 days per week, minimum 9 hours of service per week)
H0020 Methadone maintenance	\$80 per week

Methadone Maintenance Clinics must meet the requirements of COMAR 10.09.08.04, which indicates that procedure code H0020 should be billed for a weekly package of methadone maintenance services. This weekly rate includes: the methadone, visits to receive the methadone, lab tests and a weekly counseling visit. The Managed Care Organizations (MCO's) reimburse Methadone Maintenance Clinics separately for these weekly methadone maintenance services (procedure code H0020). MCO's separated payment for the comprehensive substance abuse assessment (procedure code H0001) in accordance with the rules established in the self-referral protocol. Therefore, effective October 1, 2011, the Maryland Medical Assistance Fee-for Service Program will reimburse Methadone Maintenance Clinics for the weekly methadone maintenance service (procedure code H0020) and for the comprehensive substance abuse assessment as described in COMAR 10.47.01.04 (B) (procedure code H0001). The comprehensive substance abuse assessment (H0001) should only be billed once per 12 month period, per patient, unless there is more than a 30 day break in treatment. If the patient returns after 30 days, a provider may bill for another comprehensive substance abuse assessment (procedure code H0001).

When a Methadone Maintenance Clinic bills for weekly methadone maintenance services (procedure code H0020), they may not bill for IOP services (procedure code H0015), individual counseling (procedure code H0004) or group counseling (procedure code H0005) for the same patient during the same time frame. In order to bill and be reimbursed for any other substance abuse services listed above, providers must meet the requirements of a new chapter of regulations, COMAR 10.09.80, Community Based Substance Abuse Services.

If you have any questions about the information contained in this memorandum, please contact Earl Tucker at 410-767-4078, or he may be reached at [tuckere@dhhm.state.md.us](mailto:tuckere@dhhm.state.md.us).

cc: Diane Herr  
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