California Code Of Regulations
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Title 22@ Social Security
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Division 3@ Health Care Services
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Subdivision 1@ California Medical Assistance Program
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Chapter 3@ Health Care Services
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Article 7@ Payment for Services and Supplies
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Section 51505.3@ Psychology Services

51505.3 Psychology Services

(a)

Reimbursement for psychology services shall be the usual charges made to the general public not to exceed the maximum reimbursement allowances listed in this section.

(b)

Group therapy shall be counseling at least two but not more than eight persons at any session. Group therapy reimbursement shall not be made for sessions which are less than one and one-half hours.

(c)

Family therapy shall include at least two members of the immediate family, as defined by subsection (c) of Section 51466. The oldest family member in attendance shall be billed under procedure codes X9508 or X9510. All other family members in attendance shall be billed under procedure code X9512. For Medi-Cal clients: (1) A MEDI label and Medi-Cal claim form shall be submitted for each Medi-Cal eligible family member in attendance at the family therapy session. (2) At least two Medi-Cal eligible family members shall be in attendance at the family therapy session. (3) At least one Medi-Cal eligible family member shall be billed under procedure code X9512 for each family therapy session.

(1)

A MEDI label and Medi-Cal claim form shall be submitted for each Medi-Cal eligible

family member in attendance at the family therapy session.

(2)

At least two Medi-Cal eligible family members shall be in attendance at the family therapy session.

(3)

At least one Medi-Cal eligible family member shall be billed under procedure code X9512 for each family therapy session.

(d)

Psychodiagnostic services shall be provided and billed as follows: (1) Psychodiagnostic services shall include test administration, scoring, and, when required, a written test report summarizing the performance and behavior results. Test administration shall include any pretest interview, pretest instruction and test materials. Test administration shall be concluded within seven consecutive work days. Psychodiagnostic time allowances shall only apply to the psychologist's actual time involved in rendering a given service. (2) Group psychodiagnostic testing shall include two but not more than eight persons at any session. (3) Atypical test sessions, where the time allowance for test administration exceeds three hours, shall be fully explained. (4) The psychodiagnostic tests performed shall be reported on the billing form. (5) Partial hour allowances shall be used whenever a procedure involves a fraction of an hour. (6) A computer scored test shall be billed using the computer firm's charge for the service. A computer scored test shall be reimbursed at the computer firm's usual charge up to the maximum allowance listed under procedure code X9536. Additional time required to administer the test or to evaluate the computerized report may be billed as a part of test administration or test scoring, respectively.

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Psychodiagnostic time allowances shall only apply to the psychologist's actual time involved in rendering a given service.

(2)

Group psychodiagnostic testing shall include two but not more than eight persons at any session.

(3)

Atypical test sessions, where the time allowance for test administration exceeds three hours, shall be fully explained.

(4)

The psychodiagnostic tests performed shall be reported on the billing form.

(5)

Partial hour allowances shall be used whenever a procedure involves a fraction of an hour.

(6)

A computer scored test shall be billed using the computer firm's charge for the service.

A computer scored test shall be reimbursed at the computer firm's usual charge up to the maximum allowance listed under procedure code X9536. Additional time required to administer the test or to evaluate the computerized report may be billed as a part of test administration or test scoring, respectively.

(e)

Case conference allowances shall be limited to conferences with persons immediately involved in the care or recovery of the client. Case conferences shall

be limited to one per patient per month.

(f)

The maximum allowance for out-of-office call is payable only for visits to the first client receiving services at any given location on the same day. It shall not apply to services rendered by a hospital outpatient department nor an organized outpatient clinic.

(g)

Maximum Allowances shall be as follows: Procedure CodeMaximum Allowance PSYCHOTHERAPY X9500Individual, one-half hour\$18.98 X9502 Individual, one hour38.01 X9504 Individual, one and one-half hour (maximum)56.98 X9506Group Therapy, per person, per session14.48 X9508Family Therapy, one hour, oldest family member 50.87 X9510 Family Therapy, one and one-half hours (maximum)76.32 X9512 Family Therapy, each additional family member1.68 PSYCHODIAGNOSTIC SERVICES X9514Test Administration, includes pretest interview one complete hour\$38.01 X9516 two complete hours75.96 X9518 three complete hours114.00 X9520 four complete hours152.01 X9522 five complete hours 189.96 X9524 six complete hours (maximum) 227.98 X9526 partial hour, each 15 minutes 9.49 X9528 Group Test Administration, per person over one, add14.48 X9530Test Scoring, one complete hour38.01 X9532 two complete hours (maximum)75.96 X9534 partial hours--each 15 minutes9.49 X9536Computer Scored Test, per test, at computer firm's usual charge up to a maximum of 18.98 X9538Written Test Report, when required, one complete hour38.01 X9540 two complete hours (maximum)75.96 X9542 partial hour--each 15 minutes9.49 RELATED PSYCHOLOGY SERVICES X9544Case conference, one-half hour\$18.98 X9546 one complete hour (maximum)38.01 X9548Out-of-Office call9.49 X9550Unlisted ServicesBy Report