



NC DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES**

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**LME-MCO Communication Bulletin #J326**

Date: May 23, 2019

To: Local Management Entities-Managed Care Organizations (LME-MCOs)

From: Deb Goda, Behavioral Health Unit Manager, NC Medicaid  
Kathy Nichols, Assistant Director of Services and Supports, DMH/DD/SAS

Subject: RB-BHT Providers and CPT Code Information

The purpose of this bulletin is to clarify the use of Category I CPT Codes and Category III CPT Codes for Research Based- Behavioral Health Treatment (RB-BHT).

**RB-BHT through NC Medicaid Fee-For-Service:**

For individuals who access RB-BHT through NC Medicaid Fee-For-Service (not through the current LME-MCO structure), NC Medicaid has adopted the American Medical Association's new Current Procedural Terminology® (CPT) Category I codes for Research Based-Behavioral Health Treatment, effective for dates of service on or after Jan. 1, 2019. Current populations that access RB-BHT through Fee-For-Service are NC Medicaid beneficiaries ages 0 to 3, Health Choice beneficiaries, and Legal Aliens. These are populations whose care is not currently managed by the LME-MCOs.

The following conversion table is being used to convert approved Category III codes/units to Category I codes/units for dates of service on or after Jan. 1, 2019 for individuals who access RB-BHT through NC Medicaid Fee-For-Service.

Category III Code	Units Approved	Category I Code	Units Converted	Notes
0359T	1 unit	97151	8 units	untimed to timed
0360T/0361T	1 unit	97152	2 units	
0364T/0365T	1 unit	97153	2 units	
0366T/0367T	1 unit	97154	2 units	

0368T/0369T	1 unit	97155	2 units + 16 units	4 hours/16 units per month added for program modification (for current authorizations issued prior to Jan. 1, 2019)
0370T	1 unit	97156	4 units	untimed to timed
0371T	1 unit	97157	4 units	untimed to timed

More information on the Category III to Category I CPT Code Transition for Fee-For-Service can be found here, <https://files.nc.gov/ncdma/documents/files/Medicaid-Bulletin-2019-5.pdf>

**RB-BHT through the LME-MCO System:**

Individuals accessing RB-BHT through the LME-MCO system will continue to use CPT Category III codes for RB-BHT for dates of service prior to June 30, 2019. For dates of service on or after July 1, 2019, providers will need to start using the Category I code for claims submission and authorization requests.

Category III Code	Units Approved	Category I Code	Units Converted	Notes
0359T	1 unit	97151	8 units	untimed to timed
0360T/0361T	1 unit	97152	2 units	
0364T/0365T	1 unit	97153	2 units	
0366T/0367T	1 unit	97154	2 units	
0368T/0369T	1 unit	97155	2 units + 16 units	4 hours/16 units per month added for program modification (for current authorizations issued prior to Jan. 1, 2019)
0370T	1 unit	97156	4 units	untimed to timed
0371T	1 unit	97157	4 units	untimed to timed

If you have any questions, please contact Kenneth Bausell at 919-527-7643 or [Kenneth.Bausell@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:Kenneth.Bausell@dhhs.nc.gov).

Previous bulletins can be accessed at <http://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/mhddsas/joint-communication-bulletins>

**NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

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