

September 2019

## **Important update: Behavioral health CPT codes and precertification rules**

Effective for dates of service on and after November 1, 2019, Healthy Blue has updated precertification requirements for outpatient behavioral health services.

### **Provider types impacted**

These updated precertification requirements do not apply to psychiatrists or psychologists. All other provider types licensed in South Carolina to practice psychotherapy are affected by these changes. Specifically, this change impacts licensed independent practitioners, rehabilitative behavioral health services providers and community mental health clinics.

### **What does this mean to me?**

Healthy Blue will begin monitoring member outpatient psychotherapy sessions for the codes referenced in the table below for dates of service on and after November 1, 2019.

All codes and modifiers must be used in accordance with standard billing guidelines in addition to the appropriate ICD-10-CM diagnosis codes. This applies to both electronic and paper claims.

### **What if I need precertification for a service?**

This policy change requires precertification for all of the codes in the table below **after 24 sessions/encounters have been billed in a 12-month period**. This includes sessions that might be held with different providers.

<b>CPT® code</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Daily unit max limit</b>	<b>Variable (1 unit equivalent)</b>	<b>2019 precertification requirement</b>
90832	Psychotherapy — 30 minutes	1	1 encounter	Yes
90834	Psychotherapy — 45 minutes	1	1 encounter	Yes
90837	Psychotherapy — 60 minutes	1	1 encounter	Yes

**[www.HealthyBlueSC.com](http://www.HealthyBlueSC.com)**

### **I've seen a Healthy Blue member for more than 24 sessions. How do I request precertification?**

Request precertification by faxing your request to **877-664-1499**. To find the *Behavioral Health Outpatient Treatment Request Form*, visit [www.HealthyBlueSC.com](http://www.HealthyBlueSC.com) and select **Providers**.

To check the status of your request, log in to Availity. Availity is an independent company that provides a secure provider portal on behalf of BlueChoice HealthPlan. You may also call the Customer Care Center at **866-757-8286**.

### **How can I monitor services?**

Quickly retrieve detailed information about your Healthy Blue members by using Patient360. Patient360 is an independent company that provides a dashboard of patient information on behalf of BlueChoice HealthPlan. This real-time dashboard gives you a robust picture of a patient's health and treatment history and will help you facilitate care coordination.

To access Patient360:

- Log in to <https://www.availity.com>.\*
- Select **Healthy Blue** under *Payer Spaces*.
- Select **Patient360** from *Applications*.
- Enter a specific member's information.

### **What if I need assistance?**

If you have questions about this communication or need assistance with any other item, contact your local Provider Relations representative or call the Customer Care Center at **866-757-8286**.

\* This link leads to a third-party site. That organization is solely responsible for the contents and privacy policies on its site.