

Audiology and Speech Therapy Code Changes – Effective for dates of service on and after July 1, 2017

The audiology/speech therapy code conversion provides the strategy for converting HCPCS Level III procedure codes to valid HCPCS Level II national procedure codes for audiology and Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) and speech therapy services. HIPAA-compliant HCPCS procedure codes are identified to reimburse providers for audiology and speech therapy services.

Effective for dates of service on and after July 1, 2017, the current HCPCS Level III codes for audiology and speech therapy services will be discontinued. Providers are required to bill CenCal Health using the appropriate revenue codes, CPT codes, HCPCS Level II codes, and modifiers for services rendered to CenCal Health members. All current benefit policies and claim documentation requirements will apply to the national codes.

In an effort to provide clarity to our providers, CenCal Health has removed the previously published crosswalk table and provided additional details as well as examples in regards to the HIPAA code conversion.

Requirements when submitting your claim:

- Use the most current, valid national codes published by CMS based on the effective and end dates

Things to consider when billing national codes:

- National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) edits
- Primary Payer (Medicare/Other Coverage)
- Authorizations (including Medi-Reservations)
- For all EPSDT audiology services, modifier –EP will be required in order to identify the service as EPSDT

For State Medi-Cal claims, local codes may still be required after July 1. It will be important to monitor notifications on the State Medi-Cal website related to the State's conversion to HIPAA-compliant codes.

The examples below do not list the entire national code range that may be used. They are for reference only and should not be interpreted as what to bill. Claims must be billed according to current CenCal Health benefits and services rendered to eligible CenCal Health members.

Example 1: a local code can be cross-walked to more than one national code. One for the first hour and one for each additional 15 minutes (up to 4 units).

Local Code	Local Code Description	Revenue Code	Revenue Code Description	National Code	National Code Description
X4526	AUDIOLOGY --- OTHER AUDIOLOGICAL SERVICES - HEARING THERAPY (INDIVIDUAL) PER HOUR	0472	AUDIOLOGY, TREATMENT	92626	EVALUATION OF AUDITORY REHABILITATION STATUS; FIRST HOUR
				92627	EVALUATION OF AUDITORY REHABILITATION STATUS; EACH ADDITIONAL 15 MINUTES

Example 2: more than one local code can be cross-walked to a range of national codes and revenue codes.

Local Code	Local Code Description	Revenue Code	Revenue Code Description	National Code	National Code Description
Z5900	EPSDT SERVICES - INITIAL AUDIOLOGY EVALUATION, LESS THAN 2 YEARS OF AGE	0470	AUDIOLOGY, GENERAL	92551	SCREENING TEST, PURE TONE, AIR ONLY
				92552	PURE TONE AUDIOMETRY (THRESHOLD); AIR ONLY
				92553	PURE TONE AUDIOMETRY (THRESHOLD); AIR AND BONE
X4501	PURE TONE AUDIOMETRY (WITH COMPLETE AUDIOGRAM)	0471	AUDIOLOGY, DIAGNOSTIC	92557	COMPREHENSIVE AUDIOMETRY THRESHOLD EVALUATION AND SPEECH RECOGNITION
				92579	VISUAL REINFORCEMENT AUDIOMETRY
				92582	CONDITIONING PLAY AUDIOMETRY

Example 3: more than one local codes can be cross-walked to a range of national codes with the same revenue code.

Local Code	Local Code Description	Revenue Code	Revenue Code Description	National Code	National Code Description
X4300	SPEECH THERAPY -- LANGUAGE EVALUATION	0444	SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY, EVALUATION OR REEVALUATION	92521	EVALUATION OF SPEECH FLUENCY (EG STUTTERING, CLUTTERING)
X4301	SPEECH THERAPY --- SPEECH EVALUATION			92522	EVALUATION OF SPEECH SOUND PRODUCTION (EG ARTICULATION, PHONOLOGICAL PROCESS, APRAXIA, DYSARTHRIA);
				92523	EVALUATION OF SPEECH SOUND PRODUCTION (EG ARTICULATION, PHONOLOGICAL PROCESS, APRAXIA, DYSARTHRIA); E/EVAL OF LANGUAGE COMPREHENSION AND EXPRESSION

For billing questions, please contact the Claims Department at (805) 562-1083. Please contact your Provider Services Representative at (805) 562-1676 for all other questions. As always, we greatly appreciate the services you provide on behalf of CenCal Health members.