

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Department of Health Care Finance



Office of the Senior Deputy Director/Medicaid Director

Transmittal # 21-01

TO: DC Medicaid Providers

FROM: Melissa Byrd
Senior Deputy Director and State Medicaid Director

DATE: January 4, 2021

SUBJECT: 2021 HCPCS/CPT Code Updates

The purpose of this transmittal is to inform DC Medicaid providers that each year the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) releases modifications of the Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) code set. Level I of the HCPCS are CPT (Current Procedural Terminology) codes, maintained by the American Medical Association, that are used primarily to identify medical services and procedures furnished by physicians and other health care professionals. Level II of the HCPCS is a standardized coding system that is used primarily to identify products, supplies, and services not included in the CPT codes, such as ambulance services and durable medical equipment.

For additional information about the HCPCS code set, please visit the CMS website at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedHCPCSGenInfo/>

The Department of Health Care Finance (DHCF) will adopt new CPT-HCPCS codes for dates of service beginning *January 1, 2021*. Discontinued codes will not be accepted after *December 31, 2020*. Final coverage decisions for some codes may be pending release of Medicare pricing information.

The new codes will be priced according to the District of Columbia's Medicaid State Plan, which stipulates that most physician services (including anesthesia services) are reimbursed at 80% of the Medicare rate as established by the CMS. For anesthesia services, the conversion factor will be updated to \$17.62 effective for dates of service January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.

Codes created as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic continue to be implemented per the effective dates in corresponding transmittals and are not included here as part of the annual update. For additional information visit the DHCF COVID-19 provider update website at: <https://dhcf.dc.gov/node/1477761>

The listing of new, discontinued and revised 2021 CPT/HCPCS codes with their associated short descriptions and Medicaid coverage status (for new codes) is attached to this transmittal. For long descriptions, please consult your CPT and HCPCS resources. This transmittal with the list of CPT/HCPCS changes for 2021 will also be available at the DC Medicaid website <http://www.dc-medicaid.com> by January 2, 2021.

The 2021 full fee schedule will be available beginning on January 19, 2021 on the DC Medicaid Web Portal. For questions, please call the Conduent Provider Inquiry Unit at (202) 906-8319 (inside DC metro area) or 1-866-752-9233 (outside DC Metro area).

Attachment: New, Discontinued and Revised 2021 CPT & HCPCS Codes

Cc: DC Behavioral Health Association
DC Hospital Association
DC Primary Care Association
DC Health Care Association
DC Home Health Association
DC Coalition of Disability Service Providers
Medical Society of DC