

Billing Guideline for Acupuncture Services—Medicaid

CHPW offers a value-added benefit for CHPW Medicaid (Washington Apple Health Integrated Managed Care) adult members (age 18 years and older). This benefit is in effect for dates of service through June 30, 2022. Providers have 365 days to submit claims. Please see our new Alternative Treatments Billing Guideline for additional value-added benefits beginning July 1, 2022.

Through June 30, 2022

CHPW will cover 6 acupuncture sessions per member per year for our eligible Integrated Managed Care plan members. Unused acupuncture visits do not rollover to the next calendar year. Behavioral Health Services Only (BHSO) plan members are not eligible for this acupuncture benefit.

CHPW will allow coverage only for the acupuncture codes/services listed below for eligible adult members age 18 years and older. Any one of these services or combination of these services is a session. A session is defined by date of service.

A referral is not required for this benefit. Members simply need to show their current CHPW member ID card to the in-network acupuncturist. A diagnosis of chronic pain or opioid use disorder is not required for the member to be covered for this benefit for the first 6 visits.

Search CHPW's online directory to find an in-network acupuncturist: <https://www.chpw.org/find-a-doctor/>. Contact our Customer Service Team if an in-network acupuncturist is not found in the directory (see the "Questions" section below for contact information).

Requirements

Providers must be in-network, state-licensed acupuncturists or naturopaths. Naturopaths must have a dual license (one of which is in acupuncture) to be part of the CHPW acupuncture network.

Chiropractors are not covered. Claims from non-contracted providers will be denied. Any other services/codes by an acupuncturist, including evaluation and management services (E&M codes), are not covered by the benefit. Nutritional supplements, herbs, vitamins and other services are also not covered by the acupuncture benefit.

In cases where a diagnosis of chronic pain or opioid use disorder exists, additional visits beyond the first 6 visits may be necessary. In these instances, a CHPW prior authorization will need to be requested and approved prior to rendering any additional visits. The prior authorization request should be submitted to CHPW's Utilization Management department and is known as a "Limit Extension."

The four CPT codes specified below are the only CPT codes covered by CHPW under the acupuncture benefit for eligible CHPW members.

CPT Codes

Please refer to the AMA CPT Manual, <https://www.ama-assn.org/amaone/cpt-current-procedural-terminology>, for more information about coding and billing acupuncture services.

97810: Acupuncture, 1 or more needles; without electrical stimulation, **initial 15 minutes** of personal one-on-one contact with the patient.

- The cost of needles is not covered separately.
- Refer to the CPT manual for any required modifiers.

97811: Acupuncture, 1 or more needles; without electrical stimulation, **each additional 15 minutes** of personal one-on-one contact with the patient, with re-insertion of the needle(s) (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure).

- The cost of needles is not covered separately.
- Refer to the CPT manual for any required modifiers.
- This is an add-on code. This contact with the patient must include an additional insertion of a new needle(s).

97813: Acupuncture, 1 or more needles; with electrical stimulation, **initial 15 minutes** of personal one-on-one contact with the patient.

- The cost of needles is not covered separately.
- Refer to the CPT manual for any required modifiers.

97814: Acupuncture, 1 or more needles; with electrical stimulation, **each additional 15 minutes** of personal one-on-one contact with the patient, with re-insertion of needle(s) (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure).

- The cost of needles is not covered separately.
- Refer to the CPT manual for any required modifiers.
- This is an add-on code. This contact with the patient must include an additional insertion of a new needle(s).

Questions?

If an in-network acupuncturist is not found in the directory, or if you or your patient have any questions, our Customer Service Team is ready to help. You can reach them by email at customercare@chpw.org or at the phone number below during business hours.

- Phone number: 1-800-440-1561
- Business hours: Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.