

# MVP FASTFAX

News for West Region – Rochester/Buffalo Providers

## **SMOKING CESSATION BENEFITS FOR MEDICAID ENROLLEES**

Many people who use tobacco want to quit, but need help. There are tools and support available to help you encourage your patients to quit smoking. Medicaid expanded coverage of Smoking Cessation Counseling (SCC) to all Medicaid beneficiaries on March 1, 2014 and MVP extended that benefit to all Medicaid enrollees. The expanded benefit allows each member a total of eight SCC sessions per calendar year, in addition to coverage of two, three-month courses of prescribed smoking cessation medications or over-the-counter nicotine replacement therapy products during any twelve continuous months.

Prior authorization is not needed to provide or bill for SCC services. However, practices may call MVP's Provider Services department, at **1-800-684-9286**, to verify that a member has not exceeded the allowed eight visits per year. Services are reimbursable when provided face-to-face by a physician, physician assistant, nurse practitioner, or midwife. SCC may take place during individual or group counseling sessions and may be billed as a stand-alone service or on the same day that a separate evaluation and management service is billed. Patient records must include information on the service provided and the duration of the counseling session. Reimbursement will be at contracted rates.

- Claims must include at least one of the following ICD-10-CM diagnosis code(s), for Nicotine Dependence, F17.200, F17.201, F17.210, F17.211, F17.220, F17.221, F17.290, or F17.291, *AND*
- CPT 99406–Intermediate SCC, 3–10 minutes (billable only as an individual session), *OR*
- CPT 99407–Intensive SCC, greater than 10 minutes (billable as an individual or group session; using the “HQ” modifier to indicate a group SCC session, up to eight patients in a group), *OR*
- G9016–Smoking cessation counseling 6-10 minutes, *OR*
- S9453–Smoking cessation counseling and smoking cessation classes.
- Providers reimbursed for SCC through Ambulatory Patient Groups must comply with billing guidelines detailed in the New York State Medicaid Update; April 2011, Volume 27, Number 5, available at [www.health.ny.gov](http://www.health.ny.gov).

If your patient would like more information to help them quit using tobacco or to assess if they are ready, they can visit [www.mvphealthcare.com](http://www.mvphealthcare.com) and click *Live Healthy*, found under *Members*, then *Health Tools & Calculators*. Physicians are urged to also advise patients that telephone and online quit support is available free from the New York State Smokers' Quitline at **1-866-NY-QUITS (1-866-697-8487)** or [www.nysmokefree.com](http://www.nysmokefree.com).

**Questions? Please contact the Customer Care Center for Provider Services. Representatives are available weekdays from 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time at 1-800-999-3920.**

