

Wellness Wednesday – Screening for Depression

8/23/2023



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Objective

- Provide an overview of screening for depression
- Encourage providers to promote and educate beneficiaries in life-saving preventive services and screenings
- Assist providers in billing to avoid claim denials

Today's Presenters



- Jhadi Grace
 - Provider Outreach and Education Consultant



Agenda

Overview of Medicare's Preventive Services Program

Screening for Depression


Resources and References

Questions and Answers












Preventive Services Overview

- CMS recognizes the importance of disease prevention, early detection and lifestyle modifications that support the health of Medicare beneficiaries
- Medicare pays for many preventive benefits, including educating Medicare beneficiaries about potentially life-saving services and screenings



 Telehealth Eligible Services ▼

Medicare Preventive Services

✕ Select a Service		FAQs		Resources		
Alcohol Misuse Screening & Counseling 	Annual Wellness Visit 	Bone Mass Measurement	Cardiovascular Disease Screening Test	Cervical Cancer Screening	Colorectal Cancer Screening	Counseling to Prevent Tobacco Use 
Depression Screening 	Diabetes Screening	Diabetes Self-Management Training 	Flu Shot & Administration	Glaucoma Screening	Hepatitis B Screening	Hepatitis B Shot & Administration
Hepatitis C Screening	HIV Screening	IBT for Cardiovascular Disease 	IBT for Obesity 	Initial Preventive Physical Exam	Lung Cancer Screening 	Mammography Screening
Medical Nutrition Therapy 	Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program	Pneumococcal Shot & Administration	Prolonged Preventive Services 	Prostate Cancer Screening	Screening Pap Test	Screening Pelvic Exam
STI Screening & HIBC to Prevent STIs 	Ultrasound AAA Screening					

▲ Quick Start

▲ Advance Health Equity

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Deductible and Coinsurance Waived for Certain Preventive Services

- For DOS on or after 1/1/2011
 - Medicare deductible and coinsurance waived for preventive services included in this presentation
 - [CR 7012, “Waiver of Coinsurance and Deductible for Preventive Services, Section 4104 of Patient Protection and Affordable Health Care Act, Removal of Barriers to Preventive Services in Medicare”](#)

Did You Know?

- A beneficiary must be enrolled in Medicare Part B to be covered for any Medicare preventive services

Screening for Depression

Benefits of Screening for Depression

- Early detection of depression
- Allows for accurate diagnosis, treatment, follow-up
- Avoids self-harm
- Per CR 7637, Medicare covers screening for depression
 - Effective for DOS on or after 10/14/2011

Screening for Depression

- Various tools available for screening
 - CMS does not require use of specific screening tool
 - ✓ At discretion of physician
- Medicare coverage is limited to screening services
 - Does not include treatment options, therapeutic interventions, self-help materials, telephone calls or web-based counseling
 - Treatment may be covered under other Medicare benefit

Coverage Criteria

- All Medicare beneficiaries covered annually
 - Once every 12 months
 - ✓ At least 11 full months have passed since last covered screening
- Provided in primary care setting that has staff-assisted depression care supports in place

Primary Care Settings

- Physician's offices
- Outpatient hospital
- Independent clinic
- State or local public health clinic
- Does not apply to
 - Inpatient hospital settings
 - SNF
 - IRF
 - Hospice

Who Can Perform

- Primary care physician
- Primary care practitioner
 - Clinical staff who can advise the physician of screening results and facilitate referrals to mental health treatment
 - ✓ NP
 - ✓ CNS
 - ✓ PA

Documentation and Billing Guidelines

- Beneficiary record must identify screening tool and results
- Claim must report:
 - Applicable bill type (TOB)
 - ✓ Hospital outpatient – 13X
 - ✓ CAH – 85X
 - ✓ RHC – 71X (additional billing instructions on upcoming slide)
 - ✓ FQHC – 77X (additional billing instructions on upcoming slide)
 - Appropriate diagnosis code
 - ✓ Medicare does not require a specific diagnosis code for this benefit

Line-Item Billing Requirements

- Appropriate revenue code
- HCPCS code G0444
 - Annual depression screening, 15 min
- One unit

Additional Billing Instructions for RHC/FQHC

- Screening for depression does not qualify as stand-alone billable encounter
 - Report screening as incident to billable encounter
 - If only service performed on DOS, do not submit claim
- Reimbursement included in AIR/PPS payment

Reimbursement

Facility	Reimbursement
Hospital outpatient	OPPS
RHC	AIR
FQHC	PPS
CAH Method I	101% reasonable cost TC
CAH Method II	101% reasonable cost TC, plus 115% MPFS non-facility rate PC

Beneficiary Cost Sharing

- Deductible waived
- Coinsurance/copayment waived
- [Affordable Care Act](#), Section 4104

Why Claims Are Denied

- Beneficiary received covered depression screening in past 12 months
- Services provided outside primary care setting/not furnished by qualified professional

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What You Should Do Now

- Share this presentation with other internal staff members
- Talk to your patients about the importance of taking advantage of Medicare preventive services
- Update system with correct coding information
- Update any internal procedure to include verifying the patient's eligibility to receive preventive services to avoid costly, time-consuming claim errors

Resources and References

CMS Resources

- [Internet-Only Manuals \(IOMs\) web page](#)
 - Regulations and Guidance > Manuals > Internet-Only Manuals (IOMs)
 - [100-03, Medicare National Coverage Determinations Manual, Chapter 1, Part 4](#)
 - ✓ Section 210.9 – Screening for Depression in Adults
 - [100-04, Medicare Claims Processing Manual, Chapter 18](#)
 - ✓ Section 210 – Screening for Depression in Adults
- National Coverage Determinations – [Medicare Coverage Database](#)
- Preventive Services Web Pages – [Provider Resources](#)
 - Medicare > Prevention (Individual links for each preventive service are located under Prevention tab)

CMS Resources

- Change Requests – [Transmittals](#)
- [MLN Matters® Articles](#)
- MLN Products – [MLN Publications & Multimedia](#)
 - Preventive Services Educational Products Web page
 - MLN Products Catalog
 - Web-based training
 - ✓ Preventive Services Educational Products web page
 - ✓ MLN Products Catalog
 - ✓ Web-based training

CMS Resources

- National Coverage Determination
 - [210.9 – Screening for Depression in Adults](#)
- [CR7637](#): Screening for Depression in Adults
- [Medicare Preventive Services Quick Reference Chart](#)



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