

Wellness Wednesday: Screening and Behavioral Counseling Interventions to Reduce Alcohol Misuse

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Today's Presenter



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Objective

- Provide an overview of screening and behavioral counseling interventions to reduce alcohol misuse
- Encourage providers to promote and educate beneficiaries in life-saving preventive services and screenings
- Assist providers in billing to avoid claim denials

Agenda

Overview of Medicare's Preventive Services Program

Screening and behavioral counseling interventions to reduce alcohol misuse

Resources and references

Questions and answers

Overview of Medicare's Preventive Services Program

Preventive Services Overview

- CMS recognizes the importance of disease prevention, early detection and lifestyle modifications supporting the health of Medicare beneficiaries
- Medicare pays for many preventive benefits
- Preventive services support the health of Medicare beneficiaries by
 - Educating about potentially life-saving services and screenings
 - Early detection and/or prevention of diseases
 - Assisting with/suggesting lifestyle modifications

Medicare Preventive Services



mln
 EDUCATIONAL TOOL
 KNOWLEDGE • RESOURCES • TRAINING

Print

T Telehealth Eligible Services

Medicare Preventive Services

× Select a Service

FAQs

Resources

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

Quick Start

Advance Health Equity

MLN006559 May 2023

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

Polling Question One

- What is your role in the Medicare Program for your facility?
 - Biller
 - Clinician
 - Intake/admissions
 - Compliance
 - Administrator

Polling Question Two

- How many years of Medicare experience do you have?
 - I am new to Medicare
 - 1–5 years
 - 6–10 years
 - Over 10 years

Polling Question Three

- How experienced are you with performing, documenting, and/or billing Medicare preventive services?
 - This is all new to me!
 - I am semi-comfortable but ready to learn more
 - I am pretty comfortable but will benefit from this as a refresher course

Screening and Behavioral Counseling Interventions to Reduce Alcohol Misuse

Background

- Per CR 7633, Medicare covers screening and behavioral counseling interventions to reduce alcohol misuse
 - Effective for DOS on or after 10/14/2011

Benefits of Screening and Behavioral Counseling Interventions

- Early detection of potential alcohol misuse
- Prevention of alcohol dependence
- Prevention of alcohol-related disease and illness
 - Liver disease, cancer, heart problems
- Reduction in/abstinence from alcohol consumption

Coverage

- Medicare benefit to reduce alcohol misuse
 - Two parts to benefit
 - ✓ Annual screening (all beneficiaries)
 - ✓ Behavioral counseling intervention (when criteria met)
 - Must be rendered by qualified primary care physician or practitioner in primary care setting
 - No specific alcohol misuse screening tool required

Commonly Used Alcohol Misuse Screening Questionnaires

- For adults

- AUDIT (Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test)
- CAGE (Cut down, Annoyed, Guilt, Eye-opener)
- MAST (Michigan Alcohol Screening Test)
- AUDIT-C (AUDIT-Consumption)

- For pregnant women

- T-ACE (Tolerance – Annoyed, Cut down, Eye-opener)
- TWEAK (Tolerance, Worried, Eye-opener, Amnesia, K/Cut down)

Alcohol Dependence

- Defined as at least three of the following
 - Tolerance
 - Withdrawal symptoms
 - Impaired control
 - Preoccupations with acquisition and/or use
 - Persistent desire or unsuccessful efforts to quit
 - Sustained social, occupational, or recreational disability
 - Continuous use despite adverse consequences

Alcohol Misuse

- Covers wide spectrum of unhealthy drinking behaviors
 - Risky or hazardous drinking
 - ✓ Defined for general adult population as
 - >7 drinks per week or >3 drinks per occasion for women
 - >14 drinks per week or >4 drinks per occasion for men
 - Harmful drinking
 - ✓ Physical, social or psychological harm from alcohol use, but does not meet criteria for dependence

Coverage – Behavioral Counseling Interventions

- Covered when patient screened positive for alcohol misuse but not alcohol dependence
- Up to four, brief, face-to-face behavioral counseling interventions covered per year
- Patient must be competent and alert during counseling
- Counseling furnished by qualified primary care physician or other primary care practitioner in primary care setting

Behavioral Counseling Interventions to Prevent Alcohol Misuse

- Counseling must be consistent with 5A approach
 - Assess behavioral health risks
 - Advice about behavior changes
 - Agree with appropriate treatment goals and methods
 - Assist in achieving goals
 - Arrange ongoing support, adjustment to treatment plan

Who is Covered

- Alcohol misuse screening
 - All Medicare beneficiaries
- Behavioral counseling intervention
 - Beneficiaries who screen positive for alcohol misuse
 - ✓ Level or patterns of alcohol consumption do not meet criteria for alcohol dependence
 - Competent and alert at time of counseling
 - Provided in primary care setting

Primary Care Settings

- Physician's office
- Outpatient hospital
- Independent clinic
- State or local public health clinic
- FQHC
- RHC

Not Primary Care Settings

- Ambulatory surgical center
- Emergency department
- Hospice
- Independent diagnostic testing facility
- Inpatient hospital
- Inpatient rehabilitation facility
- Skilled nursing facility

Telehealth

- Use of telecommunications technology that have audio and video capabilities that are used for two-way, real-time interactive communication
 - [CMS IOM Publication 100-04, Chapter 12, Medicare Claims Processing Manual, Section 190](#)
- Must be provided by qualified telehealth provider
 - Physicians and certain NPPs (NP, PA, CNM)
 - Other practitioners, such as CNAs, LCSWs, CPs, within scope of practice and consistent with Medicare benefit rules

Telehealth

- Benefit limits place of service to beneficiary in designated rural area and only certain providers qualified as originating site

Not Telehealth

- Virtual check-in
 - Pays professionals for brief (5-10 min) communications
 - Mitigates need for in-person visit
- E-visit
 - Beneficiary communicates with doctors through online patient portals

1135 Waiver Due to COVID-19

- Effective for DOS 3/6/2020 through 12/31/2024
 - Telehealth visits considered same as in-person visits and paid at same rate as regular, in-person visits
 - People with Medicare can access telehealth services in any geographic area in the United States, rather than only in rural areas
 - People with Medicare can stay in their homes for telehealth visits that Medicare pays for rather than traveling to a health care facility
 - Certain telehealth visits can be delivered using audio-only technology (such as a telephone) if someone is unable to use both audio and video (such as a smartphone or computer)
 - Providers can reduce or waive Medicare coinsurance and deductible for telehealth visits

CMS Telehealth References – COVID-19

- [Medicare Telemedicine Health Care Provider Fact Sheet](#)
- [COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\) on Medicare Fee-for-Service \(FFS\) Billing](#)
- [CMS Waivers, Flexibilities, and the End of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency](#)
- [List of Telehealth Services](#)



Who Can Perform

- Primary care physician
- Primary care practitioner
 - NP
 - CNS
 - PA

Frequency of Screening/Counseling

- Alcohol misuse screening
 - Covered annually
 - ✓ Once every 12 months
 - At least 11 full months have passed since last covered alcohol misuse screening
- Behavioral counseling intervention
 - Up to four in 12-month period

Nationally Noncovered Indications

- Alcohol screening when performed more than one time in 12-month period
- Brief face-to-face behavioral counseling interventions when performed more than once a day (two on same day)
- Brief face-to-face behavioral counseling interventions when performed more than four times in 12-month period

Documentation

- Must show all coverage requirements met
- Identify screening tool, results

TOBs and Revenue Codes

Facility	TOB	Revenue Code
Hospital outpatient	13X	As appropriate
CAH	85X	As appropriate
RHC	71X	As appropriate
FQHC	77X	As appropriate

Claim Coding

- HCPCS codes
 - G0442: Annual Alcohol Misuse Screening, 15 minutes
 - G0443: Brief face-to-face behavioral counseling for Alcohol Misuse, 15 minutes
- Diagnosis code
 - Must be reported but no specific diagnosis code required for coverage
 - Only ICD-10 codes accepted

Billing Guidelines

- Both screening (G0442) and counseling (G0443) can be covered on same DOS
- No more than one G0443 service can be paid for per DOS
- No payment for additional time spent in screening or counseling
 - No start/stop times required in documentation

Additional Instructions for RHC

- Alcohol abuse screening qualifies as stand-alone billable encounter
- If only service on DOS, report modifier CG with the screening HCPCS code
 - Claim generates AIR payment
- Report screening as incident to when performed on same DOS as billable encounter
 - Does not generate additional payment, reimbursement included in AIR payment

Additional Instructions for FQHC

- Alcohol abuse screening qualifies as stand-alone billable encounter
- If only service on DOS
 - Report payment code with 052X revenue code
 - Report screening on qualifying HCPCS code line
 - Claim generates PPS payment
- Report screening as incident to when performed on same DOS as billable encounter
 - Does not generate additional payment, reimbursement included in PPS payment

Payment

Facility	Payment
Hospital outpatient	OPPS
RHC	AIR
FQHC	PPS
CAH Method I	101% reasonable cost TC
CAH Method II	Plus 115% MPFS nonfacility rate PC

Beneficiary Cost-Sharing

- Affordable Care Act Section 4104
 - Deductible waived
 - Coinsurance/copayment waived

Why Claims are Denied

- Covered screening in past 12 months
- Behavioral counseling without screening
- More than four behavioral counseling intervention session in last 12 months
- More than one behavioral counseling intervention on same DOS
- Services provided outside primary care setting or not furnished by qualified professional

BMM Information on CWF

MAP175M		NATIONAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES,#13001 UAT										ACMFA561 07/18/23			
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TELH/99232		060111		060111		COCS/		100914							
TELH/99233		060111		060111		LDCT/G0297		AGE		AGE					
TELH/99307		060111		060111		HPVS/G0476		GDR							
TELH/99308		060111		060111		HIVS/		041315		SRV					
TELH/99309		060111		060111		BONE/0508T		060111		060111					
TELH/99310		060111		060111		BONE/0554T									
BEHV/G0442				101411		BONE/0555T									
BEHV/G0443				SVC		BONE/0556T									
BEHV/G0444		101411		101411		BONE/0557T									
BEHV/G0446		110811		110811		BONE/0558T									
BONE/77078		060111		060111		ABPM/93784		070219		070219					
BONE/77080		060111		060111		ACUP/		012120		012120					
BONE/77081		060111		060111		LDCT/71271		AGE		AGE					
BONE/76977		060111		060111											
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What You Should Do Now

- Share this presentation with other internal staff members
- Talk to your patients about importance of taking advantage of Medicare preventive services
- Update system with correct coding information
- Update any internal procedures to include verifying patient's eligibility to receive preventive services

Resources and References

CMS Resources

- [Internet-Only Manuals \(IOMs\) web page](#)
 - Regulations and Guidance > Manuals > Internet-Only Manuals (IOMs)
- National Coverage Determinations – [Medicare Coverage Database](#)

CMS Internet-Only Manuals

- Publication 100-03, Medicare National Coverage Determinations Manual, Part 4
 - Section 210.8 – Screening and Behavioral Counseling Interventions in Primary Care to Reduce Alcohol
- Publication 100-04, Medicare Claims Processing Manual, Chapter 18
 - Section 180 – Alcohol Screening and Behavioral Counseling Interventions in Primary Care to Reduce Alcohol Misuse

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

Change Requests

- CR 7633: Screening and Behavioral Counseling Interventions in Primary Care to Reduce Alcohol Misuse
- CR 7791: CWF Instructions for CR 7633

MLN Articles

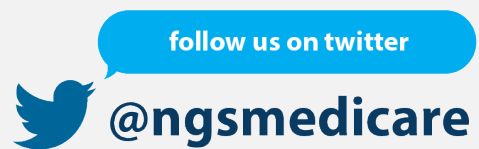
- [MM7633: Screening and Behavioral Counseling Interventions in Primary Care to Reduce Alcohol Misuse](#)
- [MM7791: CWF Instructions for CR 7633](#)

For More Information

- USPSTF Recommendations
 - [Unhealthy Alcohol Use in Adolescents and Adults: Screening and Behavioral Counseling Interventions](#)
- National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism
 - [Publications & Multimedia](#)

Questions?

Thank you! A follow-up email will be sent to attendees with the Medicare University Course Code.



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