

# IN Brief

## Information for Office Staff

### Medicaid and Tobacco Dependence Treatment

Changes in Medicaid, BadgerCare, and SeniorCare have made it easier to treat patients who use tobacco. Medicaid now covers all prescriptions and office visits for tobacco cessation.

#### Reimbursement: Regular Office Visit

- Medicaid provides reimbursement for physicians or ancillary staff when they offer brief advice to quit in addition to any medications prescribed, provided all other code requirements are met.
- For ancillary staff, Medicaid reimburses these services when billed by a supervising physician with limited coverage for a low level office visit (codes **99211** or **99212**). Codes must be shown in claims.
  - Provision of advice to quit or counseling should be noted in the patient's medical record.
- Additional codes used for tracking purposes are:
  - 1000F tobacco use, smoking assessed
  - 1001F tobacco use, non-smoking assessed
  - 4000F tobacco use cessation counseling
  - 4001F tobacco use cessation intervention, pharmacologic therapy

#### Visit for the sole purpose of tobacco cessation

- Office visits for the sole purpose of tobacco cessation do not require prior authorization.
- These visits should be coded on claims using the **ICD-10 code (F17.200)** plus **99201-99205 for new patients** and **99211-99215 for established patients**.
- Repeated courses of tobacco cessation treatment are allowed.

#### Who Can Treat

Medicaid, BadgerCare and Senior Care coverage applies to treatment provided by:

- Any Medicaid-certified physician, nurse practitioner or physician assistant or ancillary staff under the direct on-site supervision of a physician.
  - Medicaid reimburses these services when billed by a supervising physician.
- Group therapy, telephone and web-based counseling are not covered. Group therapy for tobacco cessation is only covered under BadgerCare and Wisconsin Medicaid outpatient mental health services and outpatient substance abuse services.

#### Covered Medications

Medicaid, BadgerCare and SeniorCare cover all 7 FDA-approved tobacco-cessation medications:

- Bupropion SR
- Varenicline (Chantix)
- Nicotine replacement therapy—patch, gum, lozenge, inhaler, & nasal spray
- Combination therapy (more than one medication at one time): nicotine patch and another nicotine-replacement therapy, for example.
- To be covered, all medications (including over-the-counter) require a prescription.
- You do not need to document counseling on the prescription.



Questions? Contact: [www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/forwardhealth](http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/forwardhealth) or call 800-947-9627 (Provider Services)

See [www.ctri.wisc.edu](http://www.ctri.wisc.edu) for more information about helping smokers quit.

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