



COLORADO

Department of Health Care
Policy & Financing

303 E. 17th Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

November 7, 2025

RE: Revised Psychotherapy Service Prior Authorization (Policy Transmittal 25-26-10 Revised)

Regional Accountable Entities:

This transmittal serves as official notification that in order to comply with [Executive Order D 2025 014](#), effective January 1, 2026, Regional Accountable Entities (RAEs) are permitted to prior authorize psychotherapy services beyond 24 sessions per member in a given state fiscal year, in any combination of the impacted psychotherapy codes and across all provider types.

Beginning January 1, 2026, RAEs may conduct a retrospective Medical Necessity review when a member has received more than 24 of the impacted psychotherapy services in any combination during the first two quarters of State Fiscal Year 2025-2026. If this review identifies utilization in excess of 24 services **and was not medically necessary**, RAEs should recoup payment for those services.

The Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF) affirms that RAEs that are currently in compliance with state and federal parity laws, will remain in compliance as they implement these new utilization management mandates.

Impacted Psychotherapy Codes:

90832	Psychotherapy, 30 minutes with member and/or family member
90833	Psychotherapy, 30 mins, with member or family member, when performed with an E&M service listed separately
90834	Psychotherapy, 45 minutes with member and/or family member
90836	Psychotherapy, 45 mins, with member or family member, when performed with an E&M service listed separately
90837	Psychotherapy, 60 minutes with member and/or family member
90838	Psychotherapy, 60 mins, with member or family member, when performed with an E&M service listed separately
90839	Psychotherapy for crisis, first 60 minutes
90840	Psychotherapy for crisis, each additional 30 minutes (list separately in addition to code for primary service)
90846	Family psychotherapy (w/o pt.)
90847	Family psychotherapy (conjoint)
90849	Multiple-family group psychotherapy
90853	Group psychotherapy (not multi-family)



Please reach out to your contract management team if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

David Ducharme

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Deputy Director, Office of Cost Containment & Quality Improvement
ACC/Delivery System Division Director

cc: Melissa Eddleman, Behavioral Health Policy & Benefit Division Director
Jennifer Holcomb, Behavioral Health Benefits Section Manager
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