

Physician Billing for Office-based Treatment for Opioid Dependence

‘regular medical care’
provided in ‘regular settings’
by ‘regular docs’
billing procedures are ‘regular ones’

Physician Billing

- Physicians code for professional services using billing codes developed by the AMA
- Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes are developed by consensus panels and updated regularly
- All payers accept CPT billing codes

Physician Billing

- There are no Addiction Medicine-specific CPT codes
- Addiction medicine physician services for inpatient detox, outpatient detox, and maintenance are the same as codes for other ambulatory care services
- ASAM decided 15 years ago to use this approach: to not request ADM-specific codes, but to use existing billing codes

Physician Billing

Physicians use CPT codes they are accustomed to using for outpatient 'evaluation and management:'

- Outpatient new patient (99201-05)
- Outpatient consultation (99241-45)
- Outpat. established pat. revisit (99211-15)

Physician Billing

Psychiatrists usually chose to use regular psychiatric CPT codes

- Outpatient New Patient (90801)
- Outpatient Consultation (99251-55)
- Outpatient Medication Management (90862)
- Outpatient Psychotherapy (90804-09)
- Outpatient Group Psychotherapy (90853)

Physician Billing

- Psychiatrists' CPT codes are time-based
- Other physicians' CPT codes are complexity-of-service based
- Services provided within the context of Intensive Outpatient Services can use Group Therapy codes, but most physicians will submit an MD/DO-specific charge vs. having charges wrapped into IOP charges