TO: HOSPITALS, PRACTITIONERS, AND LABORATORIES

FROM: NANCY SMITH-LESLIE, MEDICAL ASSISTANCE DIVISION DIRECTOR

THROUGH: ROBERT STEVENS, PROGRAM POLICY BUREAU CHIEF

SUBJECT: CHANGES TO HCPCS AND CPT CODES FOR DRUG TESTING FOR 2016

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will discontinue the use of the following HCPCS codes beginning January 1, 2016:

- G0431 (DRUG SCREEN QUALITATIVE; MULTIPLE DRUG CLASSES BY HIGH COMPLEXITY TEST METHOD (E.G., IMMUNOASSAY, ENZYME ASSAY), PER PATIENT ENCOUNTER);
- G0434 (DRUG SCREEN, OTHER THAN CHROMATOGRAPHIC; ANY NUMBER OF DRUG CLASSES, BY CLIA WAIVED TEST OR MODERATE COMPLEXITY TEST, PER PATIENT ENCOUNTER); and
- G6030 through G6058 (Individual drug levels for toxicology).

Also, even though the range of codes 80300 through 80377 (various drug screens) remain valid AMA CPT codes, payment will not be made for these codes per instructions from CMS.

Alternatively, CMS released 7 new HCPC Level II codes (3 for presumptive drug testing and 4 for definitive drug testing) for use beginning with January 1, 2016 dates of service:

- PRESUMPTIVE (Only one of these G codes may be billed per day):
  - G0477 - DRUG TEST(S), PRESUMPTIVE, ANY NUMBER OF DRUG CLASSES; ANY NUMBER OF DEVICES OR PROCEDURES, (E.G., IMMUNOASSAY) CAPABLE OF BEING READ BY DIRECT OPTICAL OBSERVATION ONLY (E.G., DIPSTICKS, CUPS, CARDS, CARTRIDGES), INCLUDES SAMPLE VALIDATION WHEN PERFORMED, PER DATE OF SERVICE;
• **G0478** - DRUG TEST(S), PRESumptive, ANY NUMBER OF DRUG CLASSES; ANY NUMBER OF DEVICES OR PROCEDURES, (EG, IMMUNOAASSAY) READ BY INSTRUMENT-ASSISTED DIRECT OPTICAL OBSERVATION (EG, DIPSTICKS, CUPS, CARDS, CARTRIDGES), INCLUDES SAMPLE VALIDATION WHEN PERFORMED, PER DATE OF SERVICE;

• **G0479** - DRUG TEST(S), PRESumptive, ANY NUMBER OF DRUG CLASSES; ANY NUMBER OF DEVICES OR PROCEDURES BY INSTRUMENTED CHEMISTRY ANALYZERS (EG, IMMUNOAASSAY, ENZYME ASSAY, TOF, MALDI, LDTD, DESI, DART, GHPC, GC MASS SPECTROMETRY), INCLUDES SAMPLE VALIDATION WHEN PERFORMED, PER DATE OF SERVICE.

• DEFINITIVE (Only one of these G codes may be billed per day):
  
  • **G0480** - DRUG TEST(S), DEFINITIVE, UTILIZING DRUG IDENTIFICATION METHODS ABLE TO IDENTIFY INDIVIDUAL DRUGS AND DISTINGUISH BETWEEN STRUCTURAL ISOMERS (BUT NOT NECESSARILY STEREOISOMERS), INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO GC/MS (ANY TYPE, SINGLE OR TANDEM) AND LC/MS (ANY TYPE, SINGLE OR TANDEM AND EXCLUDING IMMUNOAASSAYS (EG, IA, EIA);

  • **G0481** - DRUG TEST(S), DEFINITIVE, UTILIZING DRUG IDENTIFICATION METHODS ABLE TO IDENTIFY INDIVIDUAL DRUGS AND DISTINGUISH BETWEEN STRUCTURAL ISOMERS (BUT NOT NECESSARILY STEREOISOMERS), INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO GC/MS (ANY TYPE, SINGLE OR TANDEM) AND LC/MS (ANY TYPE, SINGLE OR TANDEM AND EXCLUDING IMMUNOAASSAYS (EG, IA, EIA);

  • **G0482** - DRUG TEST(S), DEFINITIVE, UTILIZING DRUG IDENTIFICATION METHODS ABLE TO IDENTIFY INDIVIDUAL DRUGS AND DISTINGUISH BETWEEN STRUCTURAL ISOMERS (BUT NOT NECESSARILY STEREOISOMERS), INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO GC/MS (ANY TYPE, SINGLE OR TANDEM) AND LC/MS (ANY TYPE, SINGLE OR TANDEM AND EXCLUDING IMMUNOAASSAYS (EG, IA, EIA);

  • **G0483** - DRUG TEST(S), DEFINITIVE, UTILIZING DRUG IDENTIFICATION METHODS ABLE TO IDENTIFY INDIVIDUAL DRUGS AND DISTINGUISH BETWEEN STRUCTURAL ISOMERS (BUT NOT NECESSARILY STEREOISOMERS), INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO GC/MS (ANY TYPE, SINGLE OR TANDEM) AND LC/MS (ANY TYPE, SINGLE OR TANDEM AND EXCLUDING IMMUNOAASSAYS (EG, IA, EIA).

Please note these changes and bill accordingly to the date of service on the claim.

If you have any questions, please contact Camille Vigil at the Medical Assistance Division, at (505) 827-1325.

We appreciate your participation in the Medical Assistance Programs.