



**To:** All Providers  
**From:** Cindy Ehlers, MS, LPC – Vice President of Clinical Operations  
**Date:** April 05, 2019  
**Subject:** REVISION to 2019 CPT Behavioral Health CPT® Code Changes for Psychological Testing Changes, URAC Re-Accreditation Update, 2019 Disaster Plan Reminder, Home and Community Based Services (HCBS): Validation Process, RB-BHT Policy Up for Public Comment, North Carolina State Funds Availability Reminder, Updated Employer of Record Handbook, NC TOPPS Reminders, Provider Monitoring Updates and Reminders

## **\*\* REVISION TO 2019 CPT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CPT® CODE CHANGES FOR PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING CHANGES**

**\*\*The correction involves additional hours for CPT code 96133 (Neurological Test Administration)**

In accordance with major revisions to the American Medical Association (AMA) Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) for 2019, for dates of service on or after January 1, 2019, the 2019 versions of the CPT and Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) medical codes sets are in effect.

The table below provides a crosswalk from covered 2018 CPT codes to 2019 CPT codes, units and daily limits.

2018 Psych Testing CPT Codes	2018 CPT Code Description	2019 Psych Testing CPT Codes	2019 CPT Code Description/Summary/Add on Codes
96101	Psychological Testing	<b>Psychological Testing Evaluation Services</b>	
		96130	Psychological test administration; first hour
		96131	Each additional hour
		<b>Test Administration and Scoring</b>	
		96136	Psychological test administration and scoring; first 30 minutes
		96137	Each additional 30 minutes
96111	Developmental Testing	<b>Developmental/Behavioral Testing</b>	
		96112	Developmental test administration, first hour
		96113	Each additional 30 minutes
96116	Neurobehavioral Status Exam	<b>Neuropsychological Testing</b>	
		96116	Neurobehavioral Status Exam
		96121	Each additional hour
		<b>Test Administration and Scoring</b>	
		96132	Neuropsychological test administration; first hour
		96133	Neuropsychological test administration; each additional hour
		<b>Test Administration and Scoring</b>	
		96136	Neuropsychological test administration and scoring, first 30 minutes
		96137	Each additional 30 minutes



Providers are encouraged to pursue training and education regarding the use and documentation requirement of the new codes. The requirements are found in the AMA's 2019 CPT Manual. It is incumbent on each billing provider to read, understand, and ensure compliance with published 2019 CPT guidance and DHB policy for services billed to Medicaid and LME-MCOs.

For additional guidance related to the 2019 CPT updates, please see link below to the American Psychological Association FAQs.

<https://www.apaservices.org/practice/reimbursement/health-codes/testing-code-faq.pdf>.

## **URAC RE-ACCREDITATION UPDATE**

Trillium Health Resources maintains a national accreditation by URAC - an independent, nonprofit organization that promotes quality in health care management. On February 22, 2019, Trillium received official notification from URAC that we had received full re-accreditation for the three programs in which we had applied – Health Call Center, Health Utilization Management, and Health Network/Credentialing. The notification of full re-accreditation status came following a lengthy process that included a desktop review of Trillium documents and an onsite review that involved interviews with many departments and individuals.

Our accreditation with URAC is valid for three years. The QM department would like to thank everyone who participated in the preparation of this review, both desktop and onsite, as it was a huge undertaking. If anyone has any specific questions regarding our URAC re-accreditation process or about any URAC standards, please contact the QM department at [QMinfo@trilliumnc.org](mailto:QMinfo@trilliumnc.org).




## **2019 DISASTER PLAN REMINDER**

As we get closer to the start of hurricane season and flooding disasters, we are sending out this reminder that disaster plans need to be reviewed and updated, staff should be trained, contingency and communication plans developed. Please email a copy of your current Disaster plan to Julie Brinson at [NetworkMonitoring@trilliumnc.org](mailto:NetworkMonitoring@trilliumnc.org) **no later than June 1, 2019** along with the name and contact number of your agency contact during a disaster.

Our contract with providers requires that you have an adequate disaster planning and training in place in your organization. While it is our desire that no one has to contend with all that a disaster like a hurricane or flood brings, the reality is that eastern North Carolina has had to deal with its fair share of these kinds of disasters. We know from living in this part of North Carolina that the best way to cope when a disaster strikes is preparation. Please connect with your local emergency management services, know your local resources, and stay connected to with Trillium in the event of an emergency.

## **HOME AND COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES (HCBS): VALIDATION PROCESS**

Beginning April 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020, DHHS, in partnership with LME/MCOs, is rolling out the HCBS validation phase of the Statewide Transition Plan. In order to receive final approval for the Home and Community Based State Transition Plan, North Carolina must assess the level of compliance of each site, validate compliance, and describe the plan to remediate areas of non-compliance. All HCBS sites must meet full integration status and meet 100% validation by March 31, 2020. Validation strategies include:

-  Utilizing HCBS Care Coordination & CAP/DA Case Management Monitoring tools
-  Evaluation of My Individual Experience Surveys
-  Desk reviews employing the HCBS Review Tool

### On-site visits by designated HCBS LME-MCO & CAP/DA staff

The purpose of the rule is to ensure that individuals receiving long-term services and supports through home and community based service (HCBS) programs under the 1915(c), 1915(i), and 1915(k) Medicaid authorities have full access to benefits of community living and the opportunity to receive services in the most integrated setting appropriate.

### **RB-BHT POLICY UP FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

Clinical Coverage Policy 8F for Research Based- Behavioral Health Treatment is up for Public Comment from 3/14/19 to 4/20/19. A link to the public comment page can be found here:

<https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/get-involved/proposed-medicaid-and-nc-health-choice-policies>

### **NORTH CAROLINA STATE FUNDS AVAILABILITY REMINDER**

We would like to remind our providers that State funds are not an entitlement and are not available to individuals who do not have a North Carolina residential address or that have out-of-state Medicaid. In regards to State funding eligibility for those members who have third party insurance, please refer to [Clinical Communication #005](#). If you have any questions, please send an email to [EnrollmentandEligibility@TrilliumNC.org](mailto:EnrollmentandEligibility@TrilliumNC.org) or call Trillium at 1-866-998-2597 and ask to speak with an Enrollment & Eligibility Specialist.

### **UPDATED EMPLOYER OF RECORD HANDBOOK**

The Employer of Record Handbook has been updated to clarify the requirements for Employee Qualifications and Crisis Provider Services. Employees who have criminal background checks that are positive for any convictions listed in Statute §108-C-4 cannot be hired as direct support staff. The details of Statute §108-C-4 have been added to the handbook. The care coordinator will be responsible for educating the employer about crisis services that are available to the member.

The employer will work with the care coordinator and the support team to determine the most appropriate crisis plan and supports for the member to ensure health and safety. For more information, please reference the [Employer of Record Handbook](#) located on the NC Innovations page on Trillium Health Resources website.

### **NC TOPPS REMINDERS**

All NC TOPPS requests and questions need to be emailed, using secure email, to [NCTOPPS@TrilliumNC.org](mailto:NCTOPPS@TrilliumNC.org). This includes requests for transfers and corrections to member information in the NC TOPPS System. It is imperative that requests be sent to this email to ensure that the request is received and can be processed in a timely manner. Email requests sent to Trillium staff email addresses may be delayed as the staff member may be unavailable or out of the office.

All NC TOPPS requests for transfers must include a completed Release of Information, signed by the member or their guardian, and it must state that the information to be released is and/or includes NC TOPPS records. The email should be titled "NC TOPPS Transfer Request" in the subject line and the body of the email should include the member's name, record number, and date of birth. Also, include the name of the QP that the NC TOPPS should be transferred to and their office location if your agency has multiple sites.

**Coming Soon: a NC TOPPS Refresher Webinar**

## **PROVIDER MONITORING UPDATES AND REMINDERS**

Beginning with reviews scheduled for March 11, 2019 and later, member files for provider monitoring will be required to be submitted 24 business hours prior to your scheduled review date and start time. However, you will still receive your Sample Notification ten business days prior to when files will be due to allow plenty of time for gathering and submitting files. The deadline for the submission of files is when the submission should be complete, not when submission should begin.

We strongly encourage providers to begin submitting files as soon as possible in order to resolve any technical issues that may arise in time for the review to begin as scheduled.

Trillium also provides monitoring checklists that detail what items are needed in the files. Please follow instructions carefully, use the checklists as a cover sheet for each file, and organize the items in files in the order that they are listed on the checklist. Also, please only include the items requested and only items that are current for the date range being reviewed. Submitting files in this manner will allow reviewers to complete your review in a timely manner and reduce instances of confusion or items being overlooked. If you are unsure of something you should or should not submit, the lead for your review will be glad to answer any questions you may have.

Please be advised that the Cultural Competency Training on the provider learning portal has been updated to reflect the revised 2018-2019 plan. Please go to Trillium's website ([www.trilliumhealthresources.org](http://www.trilliumhealthresources.org)) and/or refer to [Network Communication #040](#) that was sent out March 22, 2019, to view the 2018-2019 Cultural Competency Plan. *Trillium strongly encourages providers to review the Cultural Competency Training on the learning portal annually.*

### **QUARTERLY PROVIDER INCIDENT REPORT (FORM QM-11) REMINDER**

Trillium received an approval from DHHS to waive the reporting requirement for the Quarterly Provider Incident Report (Form QM-11). The waiver is approved for all contracted providers in the Trillium catchment area for the time period of February 25, 2016 through December 31, 2021. If there are any questions, please contact the Quality Management Department at [QMInfo@TrilliumNC.org](mailto:QMInfo@TrilliumNC.org)

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Any questions about this Communication Bulletin may be sent to the following email: [NetworkManagement@TrilliumNC.org](mailto:NetworkManagement@TrilliumNC.org). These questions will be answered in a Q&A format and published on Trillium's website.

Trillium offers trainings for providers and also shares about educational events across the region. To learn more, visit our [Upcoming Events page](#). Trillium occasionally announces open enrollment and RFPs for new and existing providers. Visit the [RFP | RFA | RFI | Opportunities page](#) for listings.

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