

CoCM Billing and Quality Metrics



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Presenter: Lori Raney MD



Dr. Raney is a board-certified faculty psychiatrist at Mountain Area Health Center (MAHEC) and the owner of Collaborative Care Consulting. She works with health centers integrating primary care and behavioral health services utilizing the collaborative care model. She worked for 15 years as the medical director of a rural community mental health center, where she helped start integrated care programs. She also works as a consulting psychiatrist for several primary care practices in western NC.

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Disclosure

- Royalties: American Psychiatric Publishing for [Integrated Care: Working at the Interface of Primary Care and Behavioral Health](#)
- [Integrated Care: A Guide for Effective Implementation](#)
- No pharmaceutical or device manufacturing funding
- No off-label discussion of pharmaceuticals

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Learning Objectives

By the end of this training, learner will be able to:

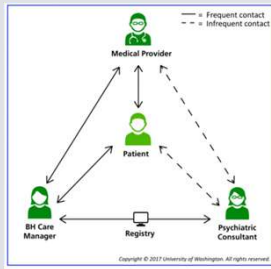
1. **Successfully** bill the CoCM codes by examination of the CPT coding process
2. **Examine** at least one outcome and one process measure for your current state of implementation of CoCM to determine efficacy of the program



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Collaborative Care Model Refresher



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CPT CODES FOR "PSYCHIATRIC COLLABORATIVE CARE MANAGEMENT" (CoCM)

- 99492 (Initial month, CoCM)
- 99493 (Subsequent month, CoCM)
- 99494 (Add'l 30 mins, CoCM)
- G2214 - 30 minutes CoCM billed separately from above codes
- G0512 - 60 minutes, FQHC/RHC

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Who are the codes for?

- **Only** the work of the Behavioral Care Manager
 - Not the PCP
 - Not the psychiatric consultant
 - Could be shared care manager time if on the team
- Billed once a month **by the PCP** under their NPI number
- Financing is out of the "medical" bucket – Not behavioral health
- Part of the PCPs paneling/credentialing with the payers – not the BCM
- Patient needs to consent to treatment like any other medical procedure
- TIME BASED CODES
- TASK BASED CODES

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BILLING CODES FOR CoCM – 1st MONTH TASKS

HCPCS Code	Long Descriptor
99492	Initial psychiatric collaborative care management, first 70 minutes in the first calendar month of behavioral health care manager activities, in consultation with a psychiatric consultant, and directed by the treating physician or other qualified health care professional, with the following required elements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - outreach to and engagement in treatment of a patient directed by the treating physician or other qualified health care professional; - initial assessment of the patient, including administration of validated rating scales with the development of an individualized treatment plan; - review by the psychiatric consultant with modifications of the plan if recommended; - entering patient in a registry and tracking patient follow-up and progress using the registry, with appropriate documentation, and participation in weekly caseload consultation with the psychiatric consultant; and - provision of brief interventions using evidence-based techniques such as behavioral activation, motivational interviewing, and other focused treatment strategies.

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BILLING CODES FOR CoCM: SUBSEQUENT MONTHS TASKS

HCPCS Code	Long Descriptor
99493	Subsequent psychiatric collaborative care management, first 60 minutes in a subsequent month of behavioral health care manager activities, in consultation with a psychiatric consultant, and directed by the treating physician or other qualified health care professional, with the following required elements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - tracking patient follow-up and progress using the registry, with appropriate documentation; - participation in weekly caseload consultation with the psychiatric consultant; - ongoing collaboration with and coordination of the patient's mental health care with the treating physician or other qualified health care professional and any other treating mental health providers; - additional review of progress and recommendations for changes in treatment, as indicated, including medications, based on recommendations provided by the psychiatric consultant; - provision of brief interventions using evidence-based techniques such as behavioral activation, motivational interviewing, and other focused treatment strategies; - monitoring of patient outcomes using validated rating scales; and relapse prevention planning with patients as they achieve remission of symptoms and/or other treatment goals and are prepared for discharge from active treatment.

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BILLING CODES FOR CoCM – 30 minutes of EXTRA TIME
Can bill 4/month but make sure you are doing COCM!

HCPES Code	Long Descriptor
99494	Initial or subsequent psychiatric collaborative care management, each additional 30 minutes in a calendar month of behavioral health care manager activities, in consultation with a psychiatric consultant, and directed by the treating physician or other qualified health care professional (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure).

Good for Crisis too

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Code G2214

Use when limited time to bill in a month such as admitted close to end of the month or getting better and not much to do THAT MONTH

Initial or subsequent psychiatric collaborative care management, **first 30 minutes** in a month of behavioral health care manager activities, in consultation with a psychiatric consultant, and directed by the treating physician or other qualified health care professional

Cannot bill with other COCM codes

At least 16 minutes

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G0512

FQHC/RHC

Rural health clinic or federally qualified health center (RHC or FQHC) only, psychiatric collaborative care model (psychiatric COCM), **60 minutes or more** of clinical staff time for psychiatric COCM services directed by an RHC or FQHC practitioner (physician, NP, PA, or CNM) and including services furnished by a behavioral health care manager and consultation with a psychiatric consultant, per calendar month

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"MAJORITY RULE" MEDICARE

MAJORITY = half the time + 1 minute

- 99492 - 70 minutes = 36
- 99493 - 60 minutes = 31
- 99494 - Add on = 16 minute minimum
- G2214 - 16 minute minimum

Add on code 99494 - up to 4

- Initial month 99492
 - 1st add on 99494 = $70 + 16 = 86$
 - 2nd add on 99494 = $70 + 30 + 16 = 116$ And so on
- Subsequent month 99493
 - 1st add on 99494 = $60+16 = 76$
 - additional 99494 = $60+30+16 = 96$, and so on

Example:

- Alice is admitted to COCM and a total of 153 minutes spent that calendar month
- What CPT codes can you bill?

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Answer: 153 minutes first month COCM

- 99492 – first month 70 minutes
- Plus 99494 – 1st one $70 + 30 = 100$ minutes
- Plus 99494 – 2nd one $70 + 30 + 30 = 130$ minutes
- Plus 99494 – 3rd one $70 + 30 + 30 + 23$ (at least 16) = 153 minutes
- Bill 99492 and 3 add on 99494s

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Time tracking per calendar Month

- Minutes spent talking to patient (in person or phone or portal or text etc)
- Minutes spent talking to the PCP
- Minutes spent talking to the psychiatric consultant
- Minutes spent coordinating care internal or external
- Minutes spent documenting scoring measurement tools
- Minutes spent managing the registry
- Minutes spent talking to family/parents/school
- ETC! Get it all- don't leave money on the table

Photo Unsplash

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- 90% of BCM time – belongs to someone on the registry!
- Minutes tallied at end of month by BCM – want electronic capture, can be labor intensive, PCP has to sign off, summary note
- Will likely only be able to bill 85% of registry each month – multiple reasons
- Watch the last week of the month




Photo Unsplash

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“Broad” CONSENT

- Preferably by the PCP in the chart note from that day's visit
- However is considered “incident to” billing so could be clarified by BCM
- Does not have to be on paper/signed – just noted
- Includes 1) agrees to CoCM and 2) know there is cost sharing (just like any other mental health or physical health care)
- PCPs sometimes resistant about discussing money (“call your insurance company if you want to know what your copay is”)
- Develop “smart phrase” in your EMR for both consent and cost share for ease with PCPs

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Key take-aways

- Capturing minutes will get easier over time!
- Watch the end of the month
- Meet regularly with your revenue cycle team – understand reasons for “back-end denials”
- Bill according to location (FQHC or not?) and payer (MCD, MCR, Commercial, self?)
- Do the math: staff salary and overhead and reimbursement = registry size to be in the black

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Quality and Metrics for COCM



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Why are metrics important?

- Patient level – get better and reduce suffering
- Population “reach” – more people in need get effective care
- Reduced wait for psychiatry, PCPs get help and learning
- Value based payment (VBP)/performance bonuses
 - BCBS example – readmissions, PHQ
- When BH gets better, physical health gets better – less suffering and overall healthcare costs decrease
 - Diabetes and depression
 - Substance use and anxiety

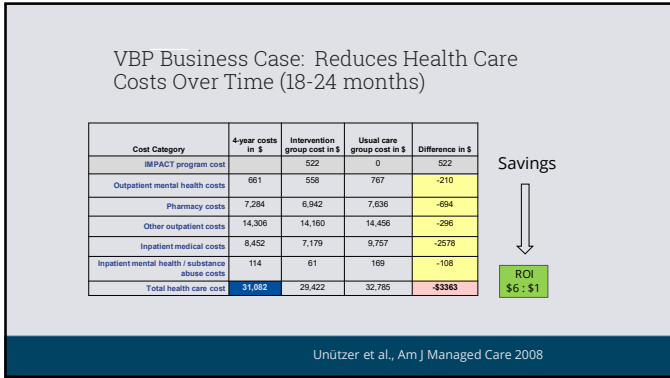
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NC BCBS Medicaid Quality Measures

Healthy Blue Quality Measures Desktop Reference for Medicaid Providers 2022

Measure ID	Measure Name	Measure Type	Measure Category	Measure Description
100000001	Admission to Hospital and 30-Day Readmission	30-Day	30-Day	Percentage of patients that 30-day readmission occurred for admission on the day of the baseline date or 30-day readmission and patient is alive up plan is discharged on the day of the patient's death.
100000002	Admission to Hospital and 90-Day Readmission	90-Day	90-Day	Percentage of patients that 90-day readmission occurred for admission on the day of the baseline date or 90-day readmission and patient is alive up plan is discharged on the day of the patient's death.
100000003	Admission to Hospital and 180-Day Readmission	180-Day	180-Day	Percentage of patients that 180-day readmission occurred for admission on the day of the baseline date or 180-day readmission and patient is alive up plan is discharged on the day of the patient's death.

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USE VALIDATED TOOLS SCREENING & MEASUREMENT

Mood Disorders

- PHQ-9 Depression
- Altman Mania Scale
- CIDI: Bipolar Disorder
- EPDS: Postnatal Depression

Anxiety Disorders

- GAD-7: Anxiety
- PCL-5: PTSD
- SCARED
- Mini Social Phobia: Social Phobia

Substance Use Disorders

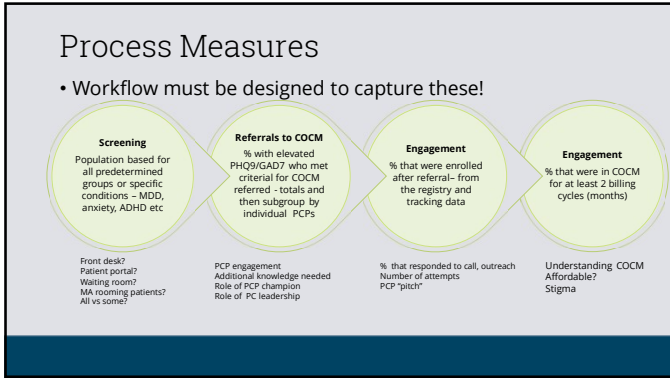
- CAGE-AID
- AUDIT-C
- Brief Addiction Monitor (BAM)
- CRAFT
- Alcohol Screening and BI for Youth

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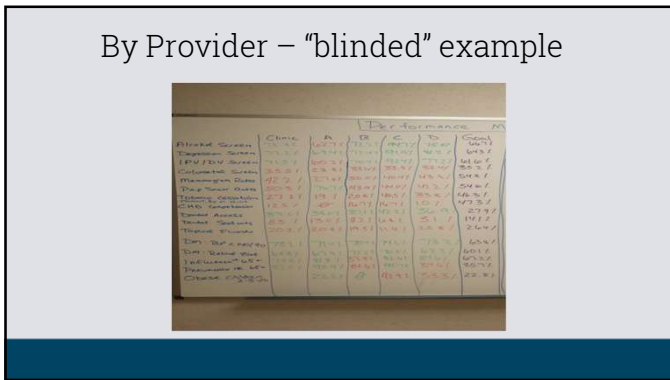
EFFECTIVE MEASUREMENT FOR METRICS GATHERING

- Systematic (define timing) administration of tools
- Frequently enough to capture timing of change
- Timely so can be used to adjust care

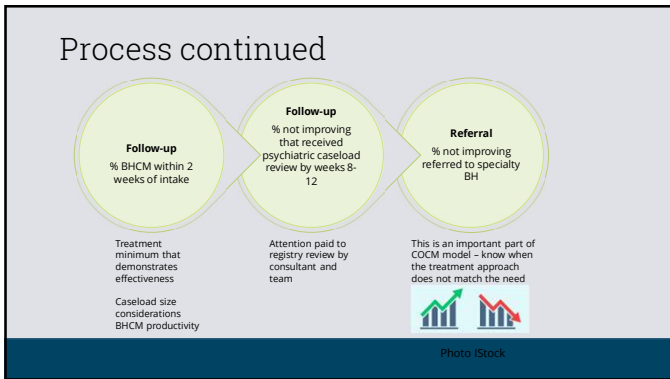
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Measures for SUD

Retention: The fundamental measure for treating Substance Use Disorders

- Individual Goal
- Population Goal

Other Useful Metrics

- Illicit Substance Use
 - Urine, saliva drug and alcohol screens
- Dose of Buprenorphine (as indicated)
 - On average, individual and population dose should be \geq 8mg of Buprenorphine daily (typical dose is 12-16mg a day)

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Performance metrics for Perinatal COCM

- Depression/Anxiety Response and Remission
- Preterm delivery
- Connection to care post delivery
- Low birth weight infants

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Financial measures

- Financial considerations too
 - % Back end denials by payer- and those resolved
 - Contract negotiations?
 - Billing staff understand the codes?
 - % of registry billed each month (85% national average)
 - Meeting monthly minutes goals?
 - Revenue compared to expenses
 - pro forma goals being met?
 - BHCM correct coding?
 - PCP sign off?

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Outcomes Need to be Shared

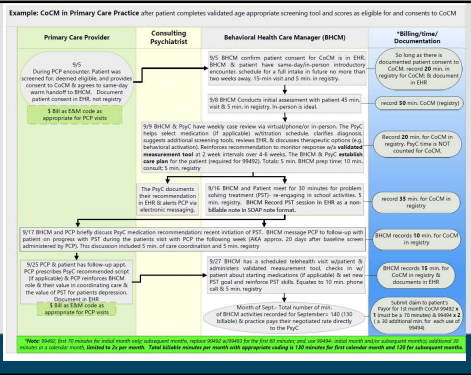
- Celebrate successes!!
- Share data with the teams!



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Workflow



AHEC Playbook

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MAHEC OUTCOMES 2023

METRIC	DEPRESSION OUTCOMES	ANXIETY OUTCOMES
50% Reduction PHQ9	47%	48%
Remission PHQ 9 < 5	30%	26%

Source: Lori Raney

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Conclusion

- Design a quality improvement plan to capture both process and outcome measures – SET GOALS BEFORE YOU BEGIN – THIS IS WHY YOU ARE DOING COCM IN THE FIRST PLACE!!
- Goals will be reached at different stages in your implementation and should be adjusted based on findings
- Make changes and measure again, set new goals
- Share share share the results!

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Time for Discussion

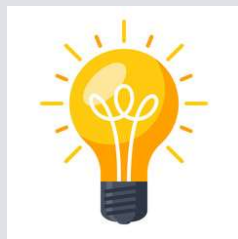


Name one process measure you have implemented and share your experience with us

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Time for Your Participation!

Name one clinical outcome measure you are working on or have achieved



! photo

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References

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