



Medicaid Policy Number (This number will be generated by Medical Services.) NDMP-2013-0008	Date Policy was Last Reviewed 06/08/2015
Title Family psychotherapy (without the patient present)	
Effective Date Origination Date 2013	
Revision Date(s) 06/08/2015	
Replaces	
Cross References	
Description Family therapy is used to describe family participation in the treatment process of the patient. CPT® code 90846 is used when the patient is not present. The medical record must document the conditions described in this policy relative to CPT® code 90846.	
Scope	
Policy Family psychotherapy without the patient present (CPT® code 90846) will only be covered by North Dakota Medicaid for an eligible child ages 4 thru 20 years and only for treatment of the eligible child. Family therapy is appropriate when intervention in the family interactions would be expected to improve the eligible child's emotional/behavioral disturbance. The mental health professional meets with the eligible child's household/family member to evaluate and treat the condition. Attention is given to the impact of the eligible child's condition as well as the impact to the eligible child's household/family. Therapy is aimed at improving the interaction between the eligible child and his/her household/family. Family psychotherapy without the patient present (CPT® code 90846) is not allowed/reimbursed by ND Medicaid when the patient's household or family member is not present at the therapy session. Provider management meetings are not reimbursable by ND Medicaid under CPT® code 90846.	
Policy Guidelines Therapy services billed to North Dakota Medicaid are subject to the same requirement to be reasonable and necessary such as with general North Dakota Medicaid program rules. Failure to completely document the necessity of the CPT® code 90846 may result in the denial of claim(s). CPT® code 90846 will be subject to the North Dakota Medicaid service limits of 40 psychological and mental health visits per year.	
<u>Providers Eligible for Reimbursement (the service must be within the enrolled practitioner's scope of practice):</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Psychiatrist (MD/DO)• Psychologist• Nurse Practitioner (NP)• Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker (LICSW)	

- Licensed Social Worker (LSW)
- Licensed Certified Social Worker (LCSW)
- Licensed Addiction Counselor (LAC)
- Licensed Associate Professional Counselor (LAPC)
- Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC)
- Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC)
- Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS)

A household/family member is any individual who shares the child’s home a substantial amount of time. Children who are twenty-one years of age or older are not counted as household/family members. An individual who is temporarily absent from the household/family by reason of employment, school, training, or medical treatment, or who is expected to return to the household within a reasonable timeframe shall be considered a household/family member.

Benefit Application

Minimum Documentation Requirements:

- Date, name and age of eligible child, length of session;
- Current level of symptomatology/reason for the encounter and pertinent interval history as it relates to the eligible child’s diagnosis(es) (Note: all elements must be clearly understood – i.e. issues discussed, high risk factors identified, when applicable);
- Specific therapeutic intervention (i.e. psychotherapeutic, medication, diagnostic test(s), consultations, family, other);
- Current assessment/impression (i.e. progress or regression);
- Diagnosis (if diagnosis changes, document new data to justify); and
- Current treatment plan/strategy/goals (i.e. including changes in treatment plan, expected outcomes, etc.)

Rationale Source

This ND Medicaid Medical Policy is subject to National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) editing rules and limitations. To view policies and procedures for these see: <http://www.medicaid.gov/Medicaid-CHIP-Program-Information/By-Topics/Data-and-Systems/National-Correct-Coding-Initiative.html> .

Code of Federal Regulations Citation(s)

45 CFR 164.501

CODES	NUMBER	DESCRIPTION
CPT®	90846	Family psychotherapy (without the patient present)
Applicable Modifier(s)	N/A	N/A
ICD Procedures(s)	N/A	N/A
ICD-9 Diagnosis(es)	290.0-319	Mental, Behavioral and Neurodevelopmental Disorders
ICD-10 Diagnosis(es)	F01-F99	Mental, Behavioral and Neurodevelopmental Disorders
Applicable Revenue Codes(s)	N/A	N/A
HCPCS Code(s)	N/A	N/A
Type of Service	Medicine	As listed in the Medicine section of CPT®.

Place of Service	11	Office
	21	Inpatient Hospital
	22	Outpatient Hospital
	51	Inpatient Psychiatric Facility
	52	Psychiatric Facility-Partial Hospitalization
	53	Community Mental Health Center
	55	Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Facility
	56	Psychiatric Residential Treatment Center
	57	Non-residential Substance Abuse Treatment Facility

Disclaimer: This medical policy is a guide in evaluating the medical necessity of a particular service or treatment. The North Dakota Medicaid program adopts policies after careful review of published peer-review scientific literature, national guidelines and local standards of practice. Since medical technology is constantly changing, North Dakota Medicaid reserves the right to review and update policies as appropriate. Always consult the General Information for Providers manual or North Dakota Medicaid Policy to determine coverage. CPT codes, descriptions and material are copyrighted by the American Medical Association.