



To: MCOs

From: Stephanie Anderson *SA*

Date: December 22, 2015

**Subject: Updated Attachments G and H to Budget Memo**

As you may be aware, CMS has deleted and added several new HCPCS codes to be effective January 1, 2016. This update impacts codes that should be accounted for in our benefit limits for urine drug screens.

This memo includes updated Attachments G and H to our annual benefit limit memo. Please assure your systems are updated accordingly in order to continue counting benefit limits for urine drug screens appropriately.

Let me know if you have any questions.

**Attachment G**  
**Benefit Limits Effective October 1, 2013 for Adults**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Codes</b>	<b>Policy</b>	<b>Comments</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>Urine Drug Screens</b>	G0434 G0431	G0434 - Limit of <b>12</b> per calendar year G0431 - Limit of <b>4</b> per calendar year  Limits do not apply in the emergency department (Note: this includes urine drug screens that are sent to an independent lab on the same date of service for the same enrollee on the same day of an emergency department visit.)	Adhere to Medicare Guidelines for billing Urine Drug Screens. Do Not Cover Urine Drug Screens Under 8xxxx series CPT codes  Each G code carries its own limit: G0434 = limited to 12 units per member, per calendar year  G0431 = limited to 4 units per member in addition to the 12 for G0434 and may be billed on the same date of service  271U will report number of urine drug screens paid and apply encounter edits if exceeded	G0434 and G0431 deleted  Either G0477 <sup>3</sup> or G0478 Limit: 12 per member per calendar year  G0479 Limit: 4 per member per calendar year's

- Note:** 1) Please remember with Benefit Limits, you must provide a Notice of Limit (EOB) to members once a service is billed that exceeds a limit.  
2) If a service is requested after a limit is exceeded, a Grier notice of denial must be sent.  
3) **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 tests, presumptive, any number of drug classes; any number of devices or procedures, (e.g., immunoassay) read by instrument -assisted direct optical observation (e.g., dipsticks, cups, cards, cartridges), includes sample validation's when performed, per date of service.  
**G0479:** Drug tests, presumptive, any number of drug classes; any number of devices or procedures by instrumental chemistry analyzers (e.g., immunoassay, enzyme assay, TOF, MA LDI, LDTD, DES I, DART, GHPC, GC mass spectrometry), includes sample validation when performed, per date of service.

**Attachment H**  
**Benefit Limits for Assay Drug Testing – Effective July 1, 2015**

Description	Codes/Descriptions	Policy	2016	New Codes
Assay of Opiates	G6056 – Opiate(s), drug and metabolites, each	Limit to two (2) per calendar year	Deleted	G0480 <sup>1</sup> :1-7 drug classes per day
Assay of Methadone	G6053 – Methadone	Limit to two (2) per calendar year	Deleted	G0481:8-14 drug classes per day
Assay of Amphetamines	G6042 – Amphetamine or methamphetamine	Limit to two (2) per calendar year	Deleted	G0482:15-21 drug classes per day
Assay of Phencyclidine	83992 Phencyclidine	Limit to two (2) per calendar year	Do not use	G0483: 22 or more drug classes per day
Assay of Cocaine	G6044 – Cocaine or metabolite	Limit to two (2) per calendar year	Deleted	LIMIT: 2 per year
Assay of Dihydromorphinone	G6046 – Dihydromorphinone	Limit to two (2) per calendar year	Deleted	
Assay of Barbiturates	G6043 – Barbiturates, not elsewhere specified	Limit to two (2) per calendar year	Deleted	
Assay of Dihydrocodeinone	G6045 Dihydrocodeinone	Limit to two (2) per calendar year	Deleted	
Assay of Metanephrines	83835 Metanephrines	Limit to two (2) per calendar year	Do not use	
Assay of Urine Alkaloids	G6041 – Alkaloids, urine, quantitative	Limit to two (2) per calendar year	Deleted	

**NOTE:** Your policies should prohibit providers from using the 8xxx codes in instances where CMS has provided a G code.

1) **G0480:** Drug tests, definitive, utilizing drug identification methods able to identify individual drugs and distinguish between structural isomers (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 immunoassays (e.g., IA, EIA, ELISA, EMI T, FPIA) and enzymatic methods (e.g., alcohol dehydrogenase)); qualitative or quantitative, all sources, include specimen validity testing, per day, 1-7 drug classes, including metabolites if performed.

**G0481:** 8-14 drug classes, including metabolites perform.

**G0482:** 15-21 drug classes, including metabolites if performed

**G0483:** 22 or more drug classes, including metabolites if performed