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Medicaid Alert

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TO: Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) – **For Action**
Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) – **For Information Only**

SUBJECT: New FQHC Billing Procedures for Licensed Clinical Social Workers (LCSWs)

EFFECTIVE: Claims with service dates on or after July 1, 2024

PURPOSE: To advise that **effective July 1, 2024**, NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid will require FQHCs to utilize new billing codes and modifiers to identify LCSWs as servicing providers.

ACTION: Per the terms of the June 2024 Newsletter (Vol. 34 No. 06), LCSWs may now enroll as billing providers in NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid. We note that notwithstanding this change, FQHCs can continue to bill for services provided by LCSWs, whether or not the LCSW in question is enrolled as a Medicaid billing provider.

For these services, the FQHC will continue to be listed on the claim as both the rendering and billing provider. However, in order to identify that the service was provided by a LCSW, FQHCs must use a Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) procedure code following the guidance below. This coding will allow the Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services to track utilization of LCSW services.

Specifically, all psychotherapy services provided by a LCSW at an FQHC must now be billed using the appropriate HCPCS procedure code combined with the **AJHE** modifier. For substance use counseling services provided by a LCSW, use the appropriate procedure code with the **AJHF** modifier combination.

- The AJ modifier denotes that services were provided by a LCSW.
- The HE modifier identifies the service was mental health.
- The HF modifier identifies the claim as substance use-related.

These new HCPCS/modifier code combinations shall continue to be billed with the current Prospective Payment System (PPS) encounter codes:

- **T1015HE** for individual therapy services.
- **G0470HQ** for group services.

The following table demonstrates how coding should occur. It only provides examples and does not include all allowable billable services.

| HCPCS | Billing Situation | HCPCS/Modifier Combination | Concurrent Encounter Code |
|--------------|---|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 90832 | LCSW providing individual psychotherapy | 90832AJHE | T1015HE |
| 90853 | LCSW led group SUD counseling | 90837AJHF | G0470HQ |
| 90834 | LCSW providing individual psychotherapy | 90834AJHE | T1015HE |
| 90853 | LCSW led group SUD counseling | 90853AJHF | G0470HQ |

If you have any questions concerning this Alert, please contact Gainwell Technologies, Provider Services Unit, at 1-800-776-6334.

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