

# KEEPING YOU INFORMED!

## CPT CODE FACTS for COACHING PATIENTS

### CPT CATEGORY III CODES FOR COACHING

The American Medical Association (AMA) determines if a Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) Code is added for a service or procedure. The AMA does not determine if or when a CPT Code is reimbursable, nor does it endorse any service or procedure represented in any code released.

The AMA releases CPT Category III Codes, such as the new Health and Well-Being Coaching codes, as temporary codes to allow for data collection of the use of emerging technologies, services, procedures, and service paradigms over a 5-year period. Category III codes are also intended to substantiate use or to provide documentation for the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval process.

From the AMA: "As with CPT Category I codes, inclusion of a descriptor and its associated code number does not represent endorsement by the AMA of any particular diagnostic or therapeutic procedure or service. Inclusion or exclusion of a procedure or service does not imply any health insurance coverage or reimbursement policy."

For more details, refer to AMA Statement: <https://www.ama-assn.org/system/files/2019-06/cpt-category3-codes-long-descriptors.pdf>

### ARE THE COACHING CODES REIMBURSABLE?

Each individual payer, i.e., Medicare and Medicaid, HMOs, PPOs, and other insurance companies, decides if and when to reimburse for a CPT code, and which providers may use the code for billing, according to the Payer's own individual reimbursement policies.

### BILLING FOR COACHING AS A PROVIDER:

Since the onset of HIPPA, qualified Providers are required to have a **National Provider Identifier (NPI) number** to bill for services. An NPI number is assigned by Medicare and Medicaid Services. There are two categories of health care providers for NPI payment purposes:

- 1. Individuals:** Physicians, Chiropractors, Advanced Practice Nurses, Dentists, Pharmacists, Nurse Midwives, and Physical Therapists
- 2. Organizations:** Group Practices, Clinics, Hospitals, HMOs, Home Health, Ambulance Companies, Laboratories, Nursing Homes, Pharmacies, Residential Treatment Centers, and DME Suppliers.

More about NPI numbers and Providers who may use them: <https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/Downloads/NPI-What-You-Need-To-Know.pdf>