

Patient Billing and Services Notice

Our goal is to provide you with the best clinical care possible. We are also committed to helping our patients be informed consumers of behavioral health care services. Please review the following information on billing procedures, which is also outlined in your registration packet. We hope you will find this helpful in better understanding your healthcare experience.

Services, CPT Codes, and Fees:

All healthcare providers are required to bill for services rendered by using Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes established by the American Medical Association. This system requires clinicians to frequently use multiple codes for one service and/or change the coding after the service is completed in order to accurately reflect the service provided, and may depend on several factors, including time spent, diagnosis, focus of treatment, and complexity.

This coding system is understandably confusing for patients, both due to the multiple codes that can be used for the session and fee adjustments that often occur *after* services have taken place. We do our best to **estimate** the cost of services accurately before appointments, to minimize the need for modifications later. However, service code adjustments commonly change after the appointment. **When service codes are adjusted, it can result in either additional or decreased fees, if you have a deductible or coinsurance. The exact amount cannot be guaranteed in advance of your visit. Patients with flat copayments do not incur additional copays when service codes are adjusted.**

“Add on” Codes:

Behavioral health appointments both for therapy and for medication management (psychopharmacology) commonly include a primary and secondary code, and sometimes a third code, for the same appointment based on situational factors of the session. Please note that this is not representative of “double billing” but rather reflects our compliance with federal coding rules and regulations.

Thank you for entrusting us with your behavioral health care. Please also know that we approach billing practices with the same level of integrity as our clinical work.

