

Smoking Cessation Codes - 2014

Under current statutory and regulatory requirements, respiratory therapists can furnish smoking cessation counseling as “incident to” a physician’s service under Medicare Part B (hospital outpatient or physician office). Only the physician or other qualified health care professional recognized by Medicare can bill Medicare directly for the service.

Medicare covers smoking cessation counseling for those patients who smoke and have been diagnosed with a tobacco-related disease as well as those patients who smoke and are asymptomatic. In both instances, Medicare covers two individual smoking cessation counseling attempts per year. Each attempt may include a maximum of 4 intermediate OR intensive sessions, with the total benefit covering up to 8 sessions in a 12-month period. Minimal counseling is already covered at each evaluation and management (E/M) visit (i.e., less than 3 minutes). These codes can be billed in addition to an E & M Code. Note: G codes are for asymptomatic patient counseling in the physician office setting; C codes are for asymptomatic patient counseling in the hospital outpatient setting.

- ❖ **99406** – Smoking and tobacco-use cessation counseling visit; intermediate, greater than 3 minutes up to 10 minutes.
- ❖ **99407** – Smoking and tobacco-use cessation counseling visit; intensive, greater than 10 minutes
 - **Note – These codes are used for inpatient billing, approved by the finance department. Again, they are not paid but the CPT code provided by RC is billed.**
(Do not report 99407 in conjunction with 99406)

- ❖ **G0436** – Smoking and tobacco cessation counseling visit for the asymptomatic patient; intermediate, greater than 3 minutes, up to 10 minutes
- ❖ **G0437** – Smoking and tobacco cessation counseling visit for the asymptomatic patient; intensive, greater than 10 minutes
(Physician Office/Clinic)

- ❖ **C9801** – Smoking and tobacco cessation counseling visit for the asymptomatic patient; intermediate, greater than 3 minutes, up to 10 minutes
- ❖ **C9802** -- Smoking and tobacco cessation counseling visit for the asymptomatic patient; intensive, greater than 10 minutes
(Hospital Outpatient Setting)