QRTIPS

Health Care Agency • Behavorial Health Services • CYS Quality, Review & Training

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This section provides monthly critical reminders in relation to documentation standards.

1) PROGRESS NOTES

The following examples are activities that **cannot** be billed to Medi-Cal:

a) "13 yr old Hispanic male diagnosed with Dysthymia. His symptoms include sadness, withdrawal and suicidal thoughts. Received phone call from clt's father informing this clinician that he would be canceling today's collateral appt. Clt's father reported that his son had a crisis, has been hospitalized and he wants to visit his son while in the hospital. Talked to father about the incident that led up to the hospitalization. Validated clt's father's feelings of helplessness and sadness. Assessed clt's father's current state of mind. Clt's father reported that he wants to come to his session but will wait until next week's appt. Will meet with client's father next week for collateral session. **This is clearly a service that cannot be billed to Medi-Cal. The note indicates that the client is currently hospitalized. Medi-Cal cannot be billed for any kind of services while the consumer is hospitalized except for that which specifically and clearly documents discharge planning (within the last 30 days).**

b) "Met for an assessment session with this 15 yr. old Caucasian female with the Provisional Diagnosis of 995.52. Client presents with no symptoms at this time. Plan is to continue to meet with client to complete assessment" **This is clearly a service provided for a consumer with no medical necessity. Medi-Cal billing requires medical necessity. A NOA-A (Notice of Action-A must be given).**

c.) Travel time **cannot** be billed for travel **between** provider sites or from a staff member's residence to a provider site. *A "**provider site**" is defined as a site with a provider number, including affiliated satellite and school site operations.* For example: " Clinician drove from CYS Mission Viejo to CYS Costa Mesa to co-lead a group/to meet with clt's MD/or to meet with clt's mother for a collateral session……". The clinician in this example cannot bill travel time to Medi-Cal. At this time (subject to change) the travel time needs to be documented as "case mgmt-no fee" on a separate note/ED.