



Questions regarding this guidance may be directed to mpassunit@alaska.gov in the Subject Line please note: Z Code Guidance

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Z Codes as a Primary Diagnosis for State Plan Services

Background

Coding, billing and claims processing rules require claims submitted to contain a valid International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM) code on the claim. ICD-10-CM Official Guidelines govern appropriate use and sequencing of ICD-10 codes. Adherence to these guidelines to assign ICD-10 codes is required under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to define the circumstances when Alaska Medicaid will allow submission of select Z codes as a primary ICD-10 code on state plan services claims. This guidance applies to claims processed by Optum, the Division of Behavioral Health's Administrative Services Organization (ASO) contractor.

Guidance

Screening and Assessment

Screening tools are the first step towards assessment and treatment. At the time of screening, a recipient may not have an established diagnosis.

Guidance for using an ICD-10 Z code as a primary diagnosis for screening and assessment services is limited to the following HCPCS and CPT codes. These ICD-10 codes should *only* be used in instances when a recipient does not have an established diagnosis.

- Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral for Treatment (SBIRT) – CPT code 99408
- Behavioral Health Screen – HCPCS code T1023
- Alcohol and/or Drug Assessment – HCPCS code H0001
- Mental Health Intake Assessment – HCPCS code H0031
- Integrated Mental Health & Substance Use Intake Assessment – HCPCS code H0031-HH
- Psychiatric Assessment – Diagnostic Eval – CPT code 90791

The Division of Behavioral Health has approved the ICD-10 codes listed below as acceptable primary diagnosis on claims when billing for services rendered to a recipient without an established diagnosis.

- Z13.30 – Encounter for screening examination for mental health and behavioral health disorders, unspecified
- Z13.31 – Encounter for screening for depression
- Z13.32 – Encounter for screening for maternal depression
- Z13.39 – Encounter for screening examination for other mental health and behavioral disorders
- Z13.41 – Encounter for autism screening

Short Term Crisis Intervention

In certain circumstances, it may be possible to identify a mental or behavioral disorder from the recipient's presentation, however this is not always the case. Providers must accurately select a recipient's crisis related condition or circumstance to report an ICD-10 code on a claim.

Guidance for using an ICD-10 Z code as a primary diagnosis for short term crisis intervention is limited to the following HCPCS codes. These ICD-10 codes should only be used in instances when a recipient does not have an established diagnosis, or a mental or behavioral disorder is not apparent from the recipient's presentation.

- Short Term Crisis Intervention Service (1 hour) – HCPCS code S9484
- Short Term Crisis Intervention Service (15 minutes) – HCPCS code S9484-U6
- Short Term Crisis Stabilization Service – HCPCS code H2011

The Division of Behavioral Health has approved the ICD-10 codes listed below as acceptable primary diagnosis on claims when billing for services rendered to a recipient without an established diagnosis.

- R45.850 – Homicidal ideation
- R45.851 – Suicidal ideation
- Z59.0 – Homelessness
- Z60.0 – Problems of adjustment to life-cycle transitions
- Z60.2 – Problems related to living alone

- Z60.3 – Acculturation difficulty
- Z60.4 – Social exclusion and rejection
- Z60.5 – Target of (perceived) adverse discrimination and persecution
- Z60.8 – Other problems related to social environment
- Z60.9 – Problem related to social environment, unspecified
- Z63.0 – Problems in relationship with spouse or partner
- Z63.1 – Problems in relationship with in-laws
- Z63.31 – Absence of family member due to military deployment
- Z63.32 – Other absence of family member
- Z63.4 – Disappearance and death of family member
- Z63.5 – Disruption of family by separation and divorce
- Z63.6 – Dependent relative needing care at home
- Z63.71 – Stress on family due to return of family member from military deployment
- Z63.72 – Alcoholism and drug addiction in family
- Z63.79 – Other stressful life events affecting family and household
- Z63.8 – Other specified problems related to primary support group
- Z63.9 – Problem related to primary support group, unspecified
- Z65.0 – Conviction in civil and criminal proceedings without imprisonment
- Z65.1 – Imprisonment and other incarceration
- Z65.2 – Problems related to release from prison
- Z65.3 – Problems related to other legal circumstances
- Z65.4 – Victim of crime and terrorism
- Z65.5 – Exposure to disaster, war and other hostilities
- Z65.8 – Other specified problems related to psychosocial circumstances
- Z65.9 – Problem related to unspecified psychosocial circumstances
- Z69.010 – Encounter for mental health services for victim of parental child abuse
- Z69.011 – Encounter for mental health services for perpetrator of parental child abuse
- Z69.020 – Encounter for mental health services for victim of non-parental child abuse
- Z69.021 – Encounter for mental health services for perpetrator of non-parental child abuse
- Z69.11 – Encounter for mental health services for victim of spousal or partner abuse
- Z69.12 – Encounter for mental health services for perpetrator of spousal or partner abuse
- Z69.81 – Encounter for mental health services for victim of other abuse
- Z69.82 – Encounter for mental health services for perpetrator of other abuse
- Z91.89 – Other specified personal risk factors, not elsewhere classified