

To:	BHS County-Operated and BHS Contracted Service Providers – SMH & DMC-ODS
From:	Behavioral Health Services
Date:	November 17, 2025
Title	New Caregiver/Collateral Services Procedure Codes and Mode of Delivery Updates

Effective **12/1/2025**, Caregiver Services procedure codes will be available to SMH and DMC-ODS outpatient providers for claiming purposes. The addition of these new procedure codes will allow providers to more accurately document and track when providing caregiver/collateral services.

Caregiver/Collateral Definition

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) define “caregiver” as “an adult family member or other individual who has a significant relationship with, and who provides a broad range of assistance to, an individual with a chronic or other health condition, disability, or functional limitation” and “a family member, friend, or neighbor who provides unpaid assistance to a person with a chronic illness or disabling condition.” Under this definition, a caregiver is one who furnishes unpaid assistance to a person with a chronic illness or disabling condition and is in a position to assist the patient in carrying out an established treatment or care plan.

Caregiver/Collateral Services

A caregiver/collateral service is an activity involving a significant support person in the beneficiary’s life for the purpose of addressing the behavioral health needs of the beneficiary in terms of achieving goals of the beneficiary’s treatment and care plan.

Caregiver/Collateral services may include, but are not limited to:

- Consultation of the significant support person(s) to assist in better utilization of behavioral health services by the client,
- Consultation and training of the significant support person(s) to assist with better understanding of the mental health or substance use disorder, and
- Family counseling with the significant support person(s) in achieving the goal of the client’s treatment. The client may or may not be present for this service activity.

What is **Not** Considered Caregiver/Collateral Services?

Services provided for the purposes of referrals/linkages or case management needs would not be considered caregiver/collateral services. Coordination and collaboration with other behavioral health providers, MCP providers, ancillary service providers, parole/probation officers for treatment purposes would not be considered caregiver/collateral services, as these providers or individuals would not, in *most* cases, be considered significant support individuals as defined by CMS.

Procedure Codes and Required Mode of Delivery (MOD) Modifiers

Providers should review the CalMHSA Procedure Code List available on the CalMHSA Knowledge Base website: <https://2023.calmhsa.org/procedure-code-definitions/> for full definitions and allowable disciplines for these codes. Additional information regarding minimum and maximum claiming times/units and allowable places of service can be reviewed on the most current DHCS Fiscal Year 2025-26 Service Tables:

- [SMHS Service Table FY 25-26 \(revised 10/2025\)](#)
- [DMC-ODS Service Table FY 25-26 \(revised 10/2025\)](#)

For More Information:

- QIMatters.HHSA@sdcounty.ca.gov

Behavioral Health Services (BHS) – Information Notice



To:	BHS County-Operated and BHS Contracted Service Providers – SMH & DMC-ODS
From:	Behavioral Health Services
Date:	November 14, 2025
Title	New Caregiver/Collateral Services Procedure Codes and Mode of Delivery Updates

When claiming a Caregiver Service, providers **must** select the appropriate Mode of Delivery that maps to the type of service rendered and attach the required modifier or the claim will be denied.

Procedure Code	Mode of Delivery - Modifiers – Service Category
96202 Multi-family group behavior management with parents/caregivers w/o patient present; initial 60min Min time to claim: 31min	<i>Providers should select the MOD that <u>most accurately</u> describes the focus of the provided service or intervention being claimed.</i> COLL – Assessment (CG) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MH: Assessment • SUD: Assessment
97550 Caregiver training w/o patient present, face to face; initial 30 min Min time to claim 16min	COLL – Care Coordination (HT) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SUD • MH
97552 Group Caregiver training w/o patient present, face to face with multiple sets of caregivers; 45mins Min time to claim: 23 min	COLL – MH Medication Support (RD) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MH only
G0539 Caregiver training in behavior management/ modification, w/o patient present, face to face; initial 30 min Min time to claim: 16min	COLL – MH Psychosocial Rehab (HH) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MH only
G0541 Caregiver prevention training w/o patient present, face to face; initial 30 min Min time to claim: 16min	COLL - MH Crisis Intervention (ET) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MH Only
G0543 Group caregiver prevention training w/o patient present, face to face; 45 min Min time to claim: 23min	COLL – Family Therapy (HS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MH: Family/Couple without client present • SUD: Family/Couple without client present
	COLL – MH Treatment Planning (HI) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MH Only
	COLL – SUD Individual Counseling (V1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SUD only
	COLL – SUD Medication (HF) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SUD Only – Medication for Addiction Treatment

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