

## **Service Name: Psychological Testing**

### Service Definition

Psychological testing consists of a face-to-face assessment of emotional functioning, personality, cognitive functioning (e.g., thinking, attention, memory) or intellectual abilities using an objective and standardized tool that has uniform procedures for administration and scoring and utilizes normative data upon which interpretation of results is based.

Psychological tests are only administered and interpreted by those who are properly trained in their selection and application. The practitioner administering the test ensures that the testing environment does not interfere with the performance of the examinee and ensures that the environment affords adequate protections of privacy and confidentiality.

This service covers both the face-to-face administration of the test instrument(s) by a qualified examiner as well as the time spent by a psychologist or physician (with the proper education and training) interpreting the test results and preparing a written report in accordance with CPT procedural guidance.

### Admission Criteria

1. A known or suspected mental illness or substance-related disorder; and
2. Initial screening/intake information indicates a need for additional undetermined supports and recovery/resiliency planning; and
3. Individual meets DBHDD eligibility.

### Continuing Stay Criteria

The Individual's situation/functioning has changed in such a way that previous assessments are outdated.

### Discharge Criteria

Each intervention is intended to be a discrete time-limited service that modifies treatment/support goals or is indicated due to change in illness/disorder.

### Staffing Requirements

The term "psychologist" is defined in the Approved Behavioral Health Practitioners table in Section II of this manual (Reference § 43-39-1 and § 43-39-7).

### Required Components

1. There may be no more than 10 combined hours of the codes above provided to one individual within an authorization.
2. When providing psychological testing to individuals who are deaf, deaf-blind, or hard of hearing, practitioner shall demonstrate training, supervision, and/or consultation with a qualified professional as approved by DBHDD Office of Deaf Services.

### Clinical Operations

The individual (and caregiver/responsible family members etc. as appropriate) must actively participate in the assessment processes.

#### Documentation Requirements

In addition to the authorization produced through this service, documentation of clinical assessment findings from this service should also be completed and placed in the individual's chart.

#### Service Accessibility

To promote access, providers may use Telemedicine as a tool to provide direct interventions to individuals for whom English is not their first language. Examples of this include:

- The use of one-to-one service intervention via Telemedicine, connecting the individual to a practitioner who speaks the individual's language versus use of interpreters; and/or
- the use of an interpreter via Telemedicine to support the practitioner in delivering the identified service.

Telemedicine may only be utilized when delivering this service to an individual for whom English is not their first language. The individual/family must consent to the use of this modality. This consent should be documented in the individual's record. The use of telemedicine should not be driven by the practitioner's/agency's convenience or preference

#### Billing & Reporting Requirements

1. Each unique code cannot be billed more than 5 units on a single day.
2. Add-on codes shall be provided on the same day as the associated base code).
3. Scoring may occur and be billed on a different day than the evaluation and testing procedures (and related codes).
4. If a Medicaid claim for this service denies for a Procedure-to-Procedure edit, a modifier (59) can be added to the claim and resubmitted to the MMIS for payment.
5. When Telemedicine technology is utilized for the provision of this service in accordance with the allowance in the Service Accessibility section of this definition, the code cited in the Code Detail above with the appropriate GT modifier shall be utilized in documentation and claims submission