

Codes 99492 and 99494

What is it?

These codes (99492–99494) are used for psychiatric collaborative care management—team-based services for patients with behavioral health conditions such as depression or anxiety. Use 99492 for the first 70 minutes in the initial month and 99494 for each additional 30 minutes.

How Is It Used in Behavioral Health?

Behavioral health teams use these codes for structured, coordinated care that includes non-face-to-face monitoring and interventions. For example, a care manager may track and support a patient with severe depression through regular updates and brief interventions.

Covered Services

- Initial assessment and creation of a collaborative care plan for the patient
- Monitoring symptoms and functional outcomes using validated scales (e.g., PHQ-9, GAD-7)
- Coordination with the treating physician, behavioral health providers, and community supports
- Brief interventions using evidence-based techniques (behavioral activation, motivational interviewing)
- Entering the patient into a registry, tracking follow-up and progress via the registry, weekly caseload consultation with psychiatric consultant

Not covered:

- Services provided after the initial month of care
- Face-to-face psychotherapy or counseling billed separately
- Standard evaluation and management office visits
- Time spent outside the collaborative care model (not supervised by treating physician or psychiatric consultant)

Code Use in Rural Health Clinics and CCBHCs

- Rural Health Clinics (RHCs) usually bill under G0512 for this service. However, if they are no longer using G0512 they may bill using these codes
- CCBHCs use these codes unless bundled under another code

Authorized Users

- Physicians
- Psychiatrists
- Nurse Practitioners
- Physician Assistants
- Clinical Nurse Specialists
- Behavioral health care managers (RNs, LCSWs, social workers, care coordinators) under supervision of an authorized provider

Key Tips

- Document time spent, team roles, and activities clearly to meet code requirements.
- Ensure the care team includes a behavioral health care manager, psychiatric consultant, and treating provider.
- For subsequent months, bill under 99493 (and 99494 if necessary)



Codes 99493 and 99494

What is it?

These codes are used when psychiatric collaborative care management services are provided, after the initial month of care, as part of a team-based approach for patients with behavioral health conditions (e.g., depression, anxiety, or co-occurring psychiatric and medical conditions). Use 99493 for each month of collaborative care after the initial month, and cover the 70 minutes using 99492 and additional 30 minute increments using 99494.

How Is It Used in Behavioral Health?

Behavioral health teams use these codes to provide structured, team-based care that includes non-face-to-face care coordination, monitoring, and intervention for patients with psychiatric conditions. An example is a patient with severe depressive disorder requiring weekly tracking and brief interventions coordinated by a care manager.

Covered Services

- Tracking follow-up and progress of the patient using the registry with proper documentation
- Weekly caseload consultation with psychiatric consultant
- Ongoing collaboration and coordination of the patient's behavioral health care with the treating physician (or qualified provider) and any other treating mental health providers
- Additional review of patient progress, treatment changes (including medication adjustments) based on psychiatric consultant recommendations
- Monitoring of patient outcomes using validated rating scales, relapse prevention planning

Not covered:

- Services provided during the initial month of care
- Face-to-face psychotherapy or counseling billed separately
- Standard evaluation and management office visits
- Time spent outside the collaborative care model (not supervised by treating physician or psychiatric consultant)

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Key Tips

- Document time spent, team roles, and activities clearly to meet code requirements.
- For initial months, bill under 99492 (and 99494 if necessary)

