BULLETIN

May 6, 2008

DIAMOND Initiative

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota and Blue Plus are participating in a collaborative effort along with the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) and other health plans in Minnesota called the Depression Improvement Across Minnesota, Offering a New Direction (DIAMOND) Initiative. The DIAMOND Initiative collaborative is organized by the Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement (ICSI). The goal of the DIAMOND Initiative is to improve care for people who have depression by providing services through a new care model offered in select primary care settings.

Provider participation

The DIAMOND Initiative will be offered at select primary care settings that have been approved to participate by ICSI and have been trained in the DIAMOND care model. The DIAMOND care model includes adding a care manager and consulting psychiatrist to the patient's treatment team. Blue Cross will be contacting the select primary care providers who have been approved to participate by ICSI and have been trained in the DIAMOND care model.

Services and billing

Approved providers should bill using HCPCS* code T2022 (billed as one unit per calendar month) on a professional claim format (CMS-1500 HICF or 837P). This code will include any services rendered by the care manager, the consultative time the primary care physician/psychiatrist spends with the care manager, and any non-face-to-face time the physician spends reviewing, managing or coordinating care on behalf of the patient. Services need to be billed on a monthly basis to the health plan that insured the patient at the beginning of the month in which service occurred. The provider should bill this code on a monthly basis for a maximum of 12 consecutive months or until the member opts out of the DIAMOND Initiative, whichever comes first.

Reimbursement

Only those primary care providers who have been certified or approved by ICSI, who have been trained in the DIAMOND care model, who have been contacted by Blue Cross, and who have elected to participate in the DIAMOND Initiative will be eligible for reimbursement. The Blue Cross allowed amount will be up to \$50.25 plus applicable MinnesotaCare tax for eligible members and eligible providers up to a maximum of 12 consecutive months per member.

Questions?

If you have questions, please contact provider service at (651) 662-5200 or 1-800-262-0820.

*HCPCS stands for Health Care Procedure Coding System.

*Please route this information to other interested staff.

