

February 29, 2008

Community Health Workers

Effective February 18, 2008, Blue Plus may reimburse for certain educational services provided by Community Health Workers (CHWs).

Practitioner enrollment process

A CHW must meet Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) eligibility requirements, and be enrolled through DHS before requesting enrollment with Blue Plus. DHS requirements are outlined in Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) Provider Update PHY-08-02, which can be found at www.dhs.state.mn.us.

Upon receiving a Unique Minnesota Provider Identifier (UMPI) number from DHS, a CHW may then request to be registered with Blue Plus. This process may be initiated by completing the Individual Practitioner Addition and Termination Form, which can be accessed at bluecrossmn.com. The CHW must be registered with Blue Plus before services can be billed.

Member and service eligibility

Members enrolled in the following Blue Plus plans will have benefits for services rendered by a CHW:

- **Blue Advantage** (PMAP/GAMC) – alpha prefix of XZG
- **MinnesotaCare** – alpha prefix of XZG
- **Minnesota Senior Care** – alpha prefix of XZG
- **Minnesota Senior Care +** – alpha prefix of XZG
- **SecureBlue** – alpha prefix of XZS
- **CareBlue** – alpha prefix of XZS

In order to be considered eligible for reimbursement, educational services provided by a CHW must be rendered face to face in a clinic, outpatient or home setting and be related to a medical diagnosis. In addition, the services must be supervised by a Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota or Blue Plus eligible physician or advance practice registered nurse (APRN).

Reference Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) Provider Update PHY-08-02 for additional information regarding requirements for physician orders/care plans, medical record documentation, record keeping and curriculum as they relate to CHWs. This communication can be found at www.dhs.state.mn.us.

Please route this bulletin to other interested staff.

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Billing

CHW services should be billed to Blue Plus as follows:

- Claims format: Professional (CMS-1500 form or 837P)
- Codes: 98960, 98961, or 98962
- Provider Number: Enter the Blue Plus individual provider number or UMPI number of the CHW on each service line
- Diagnosis: Enter a valid ICD-9-CM diagnosis(es) on the claim and link to the appropriate service line

Reimbursement

Blue Plus will utilize our standard public programs pricing methodology for reimbursement of CHW services.

Questions?

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