

Sent to SBIRT Workgroup: 12/27/16
By: Michael Oyster, SBIRT Coordinator
Re: Update for SBIRT Codes & Metric

There have been a number of changes that effect SBIRT billing codes, how SBIRT is tracked as a metric and when to make any changes to your Electronic Health Record. Here are the points of reference:

- CPT 99420 will be retired nationally effective Jan 1, 2017
- There are two CPT codes that have replaced it (nationally)
 - There is not yet national consensus on which code is best for SBIRT – there have been a mixed guidance from different organizations and states
 - OHA originally identified CPT 96160 as the best replacement for CPT 99420 to encounter SBIRT screening
- However, the Metrics & Scoring Committee has removed the claims-based SBIRT measure from the incentive set for calendar year (CY) 2017 and will be working to transition this measure to an EHR-based one
 - The committee plans to re-instate SBIRT as an EHR-based incentive measure for CY 2018 (similar to the current Depression Screening EHR-based measure).
- Given these changes, medical practices may not want to rush to update their EHR to CPT 96160 in January to ensure “metric credit” toward an measure that has been removed, but be strategic about the EHR update to include as many edits as possible

Our recommendation is to take this opportunity and methodically review your SBIRT encounter system in preparation for the change to an EHR metric. Here are some ideas to consider when editing your EHR for SBIRT:

- Code change to 96160 (replacing 99420) for screening
- Continue brief intervention codes for both Medicaid / Private Insurance and Medicare
- Edit any discontinuity in your workflow that makes SBIRT challenging as providers are delivering care or documenting their services
- Update all screening forms so that scores can be calculated automatically (if possible) and recorded in a structured data format for later reporting

If you have any questions, please contact Michael Oyster at (503) 945-9813 or Michael.W.Oyster@dhsola.state.or.us or Nirmala Dhar at (503) 945-9715 or Nirmala.Dhar@dhsola.state.or.us