
SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

TO: REGIONAL PROVIDER NETWORK COMMITTEE; REGIONAL COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE;
SUBCONTRACTED AUTISM SERVICE PROVIDERS

FROM: ALISON STRASSER

SUBJECT: 97153/97154 RENDERING PROVIDER REQUIREMENTS

DATE: SEPTEMBER 13, 2023

The purpose of this memo is to clarify the billing rendering provider requirements for 97153/97154 (ABA Adaptive Behavior Treatment/ABA Group Adaptive Behavior Treatment).

On October 21, 2022 Southwest Michigan Behavioral Health (SWMBH) emailed an update from the MDHHS EDIT team with changes to the FY23 code chart language regarding how to bill 97153/97154 services when rendered by a Behavior Technician/Registered Behavior Technician (BT/RBT).

Prior to the October 21st email, the code chart language for 97153/97154 read stated "Encounter needs to be reported under the BCBA and not the BT. Need to use the NPI of the BCBA." This language was **NOT** correct and has since been removed from the code chart (per the 12/19/2022 update).

The rendering provider requirements for 97153/97154 are as follows:

- 97153 is billed for whoever is providing the treatment protocol for an individual. It would primarily be a behavior technician (BT), but could also be a BCBA, BCaBA, LP/LLP, or QBHP if there is no BT available.
- 97154 is billed for whoever is providing the treatment protocol for a group. It would primarily be a behavior technician (BT), but could also be a BCBA, BCaBA, LP/LLP, or QBHP if there is no BT available.
- If a BCBA or BCaBA is also providing supervision of the BT during the treatment protocol, they would bill under 97155 or 97156.
- The actual rendering provider must be listed on the claim for any ABA service. All rendering providers are required to have a National Provider Identifier (NPI), this includes BTs/RBTs.

The SWMBH Program Integrity and Compliance Department will be monitoring Autism providers for compliance with the above requirement during the quarterly Medicaid Services Verifications audits and may require Corrective Action Plans and/or claim corrections when non-compliance is identified.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this requirement, please contact swmbhprovidernetwork@swmbh.org