



Horizon Behavioral HealthSM **Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)** **New CPT Codes effective January 1, 2019**

The American Medical Association (AMA) announced that the Category III Current Procedural Terminology (CPT[®]) codes used for billing adaptive behavior assessment and treatment services will be replaced by eight Category I CPT codes and two modified Category III CPT codes, **effective January 1, 2019**. Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey will adopt the use of these new codes as well.

Below are answers to questions you may have about these changes.

Q1. What are the changes to the CPT codes for ABA services effective January 1, 2019?

- A1. Eight Category I CPT codes (97151–97158) will replace the Category III CPT codes.
- Two modified codes remain in Category III (0362T and 0373T, for extreme behavior) but are rarely used.
 - All codes are now in 15-minute increments, where the old codes ranged from untimed to 60 minutes each.
 - The add-on code structure was removed.

Q2. Will Horizon Behavioral Health recognize the new AMA codes?

- A2. Yes. Horizon Behavioral Health recognizes these new codes as **of January 1, 2019**.

Q3. My current authorization is valid after January 1, 2019, under the 2018 codes. How do I update my authorization?

- A3. All services with the current CPT codes will be honored through the expiration date of the authorization, even if the approval extends beyond December 31, 2018. You do not have to contact us to request your existing authorization to be updated. We will update your current authorization with new codes for dates of services beginning January 1, 2019.

Q4. How do I bill for indirect services?

- A4. The AMA did not create a code for indirect services. Horizon BCBSNJ will use H0032 for this service.

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Q5. How should I submit claims before and after January 1, 2019?

A5. For dates of service prior to January 1, 2019, you can continue to use the current Category III CPT codes.

For dates of service beginning on and after January 1, 2019, the new CPT codes need to be used.

- Claims **will be denied** if submitted with the old codes on and after January 1, 2019.
- Claims for the old and new codes need to be separated into two different claims submissions.

Q6. Where can I find a complete listing of the ABA billing codes with descriptions?

A6. Visit Beacon Health Options' [Horizon Behavioral Health – ABA Providers](#) page for a crosswalk from 2018 codes to 2019 codes. Click on ABA Crosswalk, under Important Documentation.

Q7. Who can I contact if I have additional questions?

A7. You may call the Provider Services Line at **800-397-1630**, Monday through Friday, between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern Time or send email to:
HorizonBehavioralHealthProviderRelations@beaconhealthoptions.com.

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EC002321C (1218)