

## Appendix C.

### Billing For Tobacco Cessation Counseling

Most insurance programs, including Medicaid and Medicare, the North Carolina State Health Plan, and Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina, reimburse healthcare providers for providing individual tobacco cessation counseling.

Physicians, nurse practitioners, certified nurse midwives, and health departments can bill North Carolina Medicaid for the following CPT codes:

- 99406 – Intermediate visit (3-10 minutes)
- 99407 – Intensive visit (over 10 minutes)

These CPT codes can be billed “incident to” the physician by the following professional specialties: licensed psychologists, licensed psychological associates, licensed clinical social workers, licensed professional counselors, licensed marriage and family counselors, certified nurse practitioners, certified clinical nurse specialists, licensed clinical addictions specialists or certified clinical supervisors. Registered nurses in local health departments may also bill incident to the physician.

An appropriate tobacco-related diagnosis code, such as ICD-9 code 305.1 (tobacco abuse), must be submitted with the CPT code. Tobacco cessation counseling may be billed:

- in addition to prenatal care services, including the global fee.
- in addition to alcohol and/or substance (other than tobacco) abuse structured screening and brief intervention services on the same date of service.

Patients who are enrolled in Medicaid for Pregnant Women in North Carolina are only eligible to receive tobacco cessation counseling in the postpartum period if this is a continuation of treatment provided and documented in the prenatal period. Tobacco cessation counseling initiated in the postpartum period is not covered for patients in this category.

Tobacco cessation group treatment and classes are not currently covered by NC Medicaid.