

ATAP Updates Effective January 1, 2018

(All changes are outlined in the new Provider Billing Manual)

Changes

1. Added a section on Prior Authorizations (PA) for Medicaid children
 - a. The previous billing manual did not outline the requirements for submitting PAs
2. Added a supervision policy for Bachelor's level consultants requiring they be in a BCBA program working towards their BCBA/BCaBA
 - a. ATAP has always allowed a Bachelor's level consultant to provide supervision under the direction of a BCBA. The new language outlines the requirement that a consultant must have a Bachelor's degree and be enrolled in a BCBA/BCaBA program and may only serve straight ATAP funded children.
 - b. This allows a pathway to certification and licensure so BCBA/BCaBAs will have the opportunity to gain practical experience to meet supervision hours required by the BACB.
3. Took out the 3 Tiers of supervision-moving towards an hourly rate and a report writing rate.
 - a. This is a reduction in the supervision rate to align ATAP's rates with Medicaid. ATAP is adopting the most commonly billed supervision rate.
 - b. This rate is for children with straight ATAP funding.
 - c. The new rate provides an increase in therapy hours in line with BACB requirements.
 - d. Providers serving Medicaid children already accept the Medicaid rate.
 - e. Provider serving children with private insurance will not be impacted as ATAP only assists with co-payments and deductibles.
4. Increase the amount of supervision provided to the child (Please refer to the updated Overview at a Glance)
 - a. The comprehensive plan will now provide 7 hours of supervision vs the 6 hours previously provided.
 - b. ATAP will allow 1 hour to be billed each month for straight ATAP funded children.
5. Require session notes be kept and maintained for review upon request.
 - a. This is a new quality assurance measure being implemented. In the event of an audit case notes are needed to identify what took place during the visit.
6. Added language that providers cannot bill Medicaid children for cancellations.
 - a. This information was not in the previous manual.
7. Created a termination of services policy.
 - a. This information was not in the previous manual.
8. Identified BCBA/BCaBA/RBT certificate/licensing requirements
 - a. This information was not in the previous manual.
9. Changed the requirement for RBT certification competition from 6 months to 90 days from their date of employment.

- a. Research of current providers methods to RBT individuals has shown that providers are able to meet this requirement.
 - b. This change will increase Medicaid revenue by shortening the allowable time to complete RBT certification by 3 months.
10. Reduced the submission date for stale invoices from 45 days to 30 days.
- a. To monitor the budget more effectively, invoices need to be submitted within 30 days of the last date of services. This submission is necessary for ATAP to manage the budget and caseload.

Same

- 1. Materials
 - a. ATAP will continue to reimburse providers for approved materials necessary to implement therapy. Neither Medicaid nor private insurance reimburse for materials.
- 2. Language supplement
 - a. ATAP provides funding for a translator or interpreter during supervision hours.
 - b. Medicaid and private insurance do not provide a language supplement.
- 3. Travel
 - a. ATAP will continue to provide reimbursement for BCBA travel that exceeds 50 miles one way from their place of business.
 - b. Medicaid and private insurance do not provide reimbursement for travel.
 - c. This allows ATAP to provide supervision to children in rural areas.
- 4. Parent training
 - a. ATAP requires parent training and involvement. Funding for parent training is still included in the monthly supervision allotment.
- 5. Palco
 - a. ATAP will continue to allow families who are currently enrolled in Palco to use Palco until they are exited from ATAP or switches to a provider who hires RBTs.
 - b. Employees in Palco must become RBT certified within 90 days of their date of hire and be supervised by a BCBA.
 - c. If a family loses a RBT they can replace them and use Palco as the fiscal intermediary.