



The Complete 2025 Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Billing & Coding Guide: Compliance, Reimbursement, and Best Practices



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1. Introduction to Substance Use Disorder (SUD)

1.1. Overview of SUD

Substance Use Disorder (SUD) is a medical condition characterized by the uncontrolled use of a substance despite harmful consequences. It affects the brain's structure and function, leading to compulsive behaviors, tolerance, withdrawal symptoms, and significant impairment in personal, social, and occupational domains. SUD can involve substances such as alcohol, prescription medications (e.g., opioids, benzodiazepines), or illicit drugs (e.g., heroin, methamphetamine, cocaine). The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition (DSM-5-TR) categorizes SUDs based on severity (mild, moderate, or severe) depending on the number of diagnostic criteria met, including cravings, loss of control, and continued use despite problems. SUD is recognized as both a chronic brain disease and a significant public health concern, contributing to increased morbidity, mortality, and economic burden worldwide.

1.2. Treatment Approaches

Effective treatment for SUD typically involves a combination of behavioral therapies, medication-assisted treatment (MAT), peer support, and ongoing care coordination. Early diagnosis, integrated care, and reducing stigma are essential components in improving outcomes and supporting long-term recovery for individuals with SUD.

2. Updated CPT and HCPCS Codes for SUD Services (2025)

The following CPT and HCPCS codes are used for billing Substance Use Disorder (SUD) services under Washington Apple Health (Medicaid) Fee-for-Service (FFS) effective in 2025, reflecting Apple Health's coverage as outlined in the SUD provider billing guide as of January 1, 2025.

2.1. Outpatient SUD Services

Code	Modifier(s)*	Description
H0001	HA, HB, HD, HF, HV, TG	Alcohol and/or drug assessment (1 per client per day)
H0004	HF	Individual therapy (15-min/unit), without family
H0038	HF	Peer support / self-help services (15-min unit)
T1017	HF	Targeted case management (15-min unit)
96164	HF	Health behavior intervention, group (initial 30 min)
96165	HF	Health behavior intervention, group (each add'l 15 min)
96167	HF	Behavior intervention, family with patient (initial 30 min)
+96168	HF	Behavior intervention, family with patient (each add'l 15 min)
96170	HF	Behavior intervention, family without patient (initial 30 min)
+96171	HF	Behavior intervention, family without patient (each add'l 15 min)



*Modifiers specify population or program (e.g., HF for Adult Substance Abuse Program).

These outpatient codes must be billed with the appropriate taxonomy code 261QR0405X (reinforced for SUD providers).

2.2 Residential SUD Services

Code	Modifier(s)	Service Type
H0010	HA, HF	Alcohol and/or drug services; sub-acute detoxification (residential addiction program inpatient)
H0011	HA, HF	Alcohol and/or drug services; acute detoxification (residential addiction program inpatient)
H0018	HA, HF, HV	Behavioral health; short-term residential (non-hospital residential treatment program), without room and board, per diem
H0019	HA, HB, HD	Behavioral health; long-term residential (non-medical, non-acute care in a residential treatment program where stay is typically longer than 30 days), without room and board, per diem



These services are associated with provider taxonomies like 324500000X or 324550500X.

2.3. Drug Testing

Washington Apple Health covers the following urine drug testing codes when medically indicated:

- **80305, 80306, 80307** - presumptive or instrumented drug testing, billed as 15-minute units under modifier HF with appropriate taxonomy.

2.4. Opioid Treatment Program (OTP)

- **H0020** (with modifier HF) - methadone administration in OTP settings. When billed, use provider taxonomy **261QM2800X**.
- Washington also follows Medicare OTP G-code guidance for bundled weekly episodes (not specific to Apple Health), such as **G2067** for methadone care and **G2068** for buprenorphine (CMS).

2.5. Telehealth & Telephonic Services

As of May 1, 2025, Apple Health added HCPCS codes G9149 and G9150, which can be used with modifier 93 (audio-only) for telephonic behavioral or physical health services, including potentially SUD-related telehealth offerings. CPT code H0004 (individual therapy) is also included on the approved audio-only list effective January 1, 2025.

Summary Table of SUD Codes

- Assessment: H0001
- Therapy (Individual): H0004
- Peer Support: H0038
- Case Management: T1017
- Group/Family Behavioral Interventions: 96164-96171

- Withdrawal Management (Residential): H0010, H0011
- Residential Treatment: H0018, H0019
- Drug Testing: 80305-80307
- Methadone Dosing (OTP): H0020; taxonomy 261QM2800X
- Audio-Only Telemedicine: G9149, G9150 + modifier 93 (plus H0004)

Important Billing Requirements:

- Use the 837P professional claim format.
- Always attach correct modifier(s) per service population (e.g., HF, HD).
- Rendering and billing taxonomy codes must be accurate: 261QR0405X for most outpatient SUD services; 324500000X or 324550500X for residential facilities; 261QM2800X for OTP/methadone providers
- Units must follow the specified time increment (e.g., 15 or 30 minutes, per-diem).
- Telephonic or audio-only services require modifier 93 and are only permitted for approved codes.

Expert Tip by 24/7 MBS

Keeping up with annual CPT/HCPCS code updates and statespecific modifiers can be a significant challenge. Our specialized billing team is continuously updated on these changes, ensuring every claim is submitted with the correct codes and modifiers, drastically reducing

3. Common ICD-10-CM Codes for SUD (2025)

The most common ICD-10-CM diagnosis codes used for Substance Use Disorder (SUD) in 2025 billing under Washington Apple Health (Medicaid) and most national payers are detailed below.

3.1. Alcohol-Related Disorders

ICD-10 Code	Description
F10.10	Alcohol abuse, uncomplicated
F10.20	Alcohol dependence, uncomplicated
F10.21	Alcohol dependence, in remission
F10.239	Alcohol dependence with withdrawal, unspecified
F10.129	Alcohol abuse with intoxication, unspecified

3.2. Opioid-Related Disorders

ICD-10 Code	Description
F11.10	Opioid abuse, uncomplicated
F11.20	Opioid dependence, uncomplicated
F11.21	Opioid dependence, in remission
F11.23	Opioid dependence with withdrawal
F11.90	Opioid use, unspecified, uncomplicated

