

Medicaid *and Tobacco Dependence Treatment*

AT-A-GLANCE

Wisconsin Medicaid now covers all prescriptions and office visits for the purpose of tobacco dependence treatment.

Reimbursement

- Office visits for the sole purpose of tobacco dependence treatment do not require prior authorization for reimbursement.
- Use the ICD-9 code (305.1) plus 99201-99205 for new patients and 99211-99215 for established patients.
- Treatment can be provided by any Medicaid-certified physician, nurse practitioner or physician assistant, or ancillary staff under the direct on-site supervision of a physician.
- Treatment is reimbursed when billed by a supervising physician.
- Group therapy, telephone and web-based counseling are not covered. HMO enrollees may have access to an on-going counseling program through their HMO.

Covered Medications

Medicaid, BadgerCare and SeniorCare cover the following:

- Bupropion SR
- Varenicline (Chantix)
- Nicotine replacement therapy – the inhaler, nasal spray, patch (written as “legend nicotine patch”) and nicotine gum (with prescription)
- Combination therapy (more than one medication at one time): nicotine patch and another nicotine-replacement therapy, for example.

Some HMO’s cover additional medications.

Note:

- Patients do not need to be enrolled in a smoking dependence treatment counseling program to receive medication.
- You do not need to document counseling on the prescription.
- Repeated courses of tobacco dependence treatment treatment are allowed.

Remember to:

1. **ASK.** Identify tobacco users at every visit.
2. **ADVISE.** Talk with the patients about tobacco use and urge them to quit.
3. **ASSESS.** Determine if the patient is willing to make a quit attempt at this time.
4. **ASSIST.** Prescribe a medication unless contraindications exist.
5. **ARRANGE.** Arrange follow-up including counseling.

Questions? Contact: www.dhfs.wisconsin.gov/medicaid or call 800-947-9627

See www.ctri.wisc.edu for more information about helping smokers quit.

Prepared by the Center for Tobacco Research and Intervention, UW School of Medicine & Public Health