

# WISCONSIN MEDICAID & BADGERCARE COVER

## TOBACCO CESSATION

February 2005

### Facts about the Wisconsin Medicaid Fee For Service (FFS) and BadgerCare coverage for Tobacco Dependence Treatment

#### **Fact 1**

Medicaid and BadgerCare SeniorCare patients do not need to be enrolled in a smoking cessation counseling program to obtain pharmacotherapy. (See important note below.<sup>a</sup>)

#### **Fact 2**

The physician is not required to document the provision of smoking cessation counseling on the prescription (Independent Care, icare HMO requires care coordination.)

#### **Fact 3**

Medicaid and BadgerCare coverage for tobacco dependence treatment applies to treatment provided by any Medicaid certified Wisconsin physician, nurse practitioner or physician assistant. (Providers who are unsure of their Medicaid certification status should consult their fiscal administrator. If the provider currently bills and receives payment from the Medicaid program, s/he is Medicaid certified.)

#### **Fact 4**

The Wisconsin Medicaid, BadgerCare, and SeniorCare programs cover combination therapy.

#### **Fact 5**

Wisconsin Medicaid Fee For Service, BadgerCare, and SeniorCare coverage is limited to FDA approved legend medications for smoking cessation. However, the nicotine patch is available OTC *and* by prescription. To prescribe nicotine patch, for Medicaid, BadgerCare, and SeniorCare patients, indicate “legend nicotine patch,” on the prescription

#### **Fact 6**

The Wisconsin Medicaid Fee For Service and BadgerCare programs provide reimbursement for office visits to obtain tobacco dependence treatment -- including both counseling and pharmacotherapy provided by a physician or other certified Medicaid provider.

<sup>a</sup> Physicians are expected to adhere to the standards of care for tobacco dependence treatment outlined in the 2000 Public Health Service Clinical Practice Guideline on *Treating Tobacco Use and Dependence*.<sup>13</sup> At a minimum, these standards recommend that they provide brief advice to quit in addition to any pharmacotherapeutic treatment provided. As with any medical intervention, provision of advice to quit or counseling should be noted in the patient’s medical record. Physicians are also encouraged to refer patients To free smoking cessation counseling resources including the Wisconsin Tobacco Quit Line (1-877-270-STOP) and programs offered by manufacturers of smoking cessation products.

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## Medicaid Tobacco Dependence Treatment Benefits<sup>a</sup>

<b>Pharmacotherapy</b>	Coverage for FDA-approved use of prescription Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT) and Zyban <sup>®</sup> (i.e., legend nicotine patch, Nicotrol <sup>®</sup> nasal spray, Nicotrol <sup>®</sup> inhaler, and/or Zyban <sup>®</sup> ) Combination therapy including NRT and Zyban <sup>®</sup> , or nicotine patch and PRN nicotine replacement therapy <b>is allowable</b> .
<b>Office visit</b>	Office visits for the sole purpose of treating tobacco dependence are reimbursable. Physicians (and other certified Medicaid providers) should indicate the appropriate ICD-9 diagnostic code: e.g., 305.1 for Tobacco Use Disorder, and select the appropriate billing code from the Preventive Medicine Treatment Codes, 99201-99205 for new patients and 99211-99215 for established patients. Office visits are subject to a co-pay of up to \$3.
<b>Requirements &amp; limitations<sup>b</sup></b>	<p><u>Office Visits.</u> The State of Wisconsin does not require prior authorization for an office visit for tobacco dependence.</p> <p><u>Pharmacotherapy.</u> Repeated courses of treatment, consistent with FDA-approved use of smoking cessation prescription medications, are allowable.</p> <p><u>Smoking Cessation Counseling</u> Physicians are expected to adhere to the standards of care for tobacco dependence treatment outlined in the 2000 Public Health Service Clinical Practice Guideline on <i>Treating Tobacco Use and Dependence</i>.<sup>13</sup> <b>At a minimum</b>, they should provide brief advice to quit in addition to any pharmacotherapeutic treatment provided. These services may be provided by ancillary staff (e.g. staff nurse) if under direct, on-site supervision of a physician. Medicaid reimburses these services when billed by a supervising physician with limited coverage for a low level office visit (codes 99211 or 99212). As with any medical intervention, provision of advice to quit or counseling should be noted in the patient’s medical record. Documentation of the provision of counseling directly on the prescription <u>is not</u> required. Physicians are also encouraged to refer patients to free smoking cessation counseling resources including the Wisconsin Tobacco Quit Line (1-877-270-STOP) and programs offered by manufacturers of smoking cessation products.</p> <p><u>Co-payment for prescription medication</u> FFS patients are required to pay co-pay per prescription medication with a monthly maximum of \$12 paid to any one pharmacy.</p>

<sup>a</sup> This benefit description represents the minimum coverage for tobacco dependence treatment available to all Medicaid beneficiaries, including fee-for-service and Medicaid managed care patients. Health plans participating in the Medicaid managed care program may supplement this coverage and may require clinicians to conform to their customary procedures and protocols related to prescribing and billing practices.

<sup>b</sup> Guidelines for pharmacists: Pharmacotherapy for TDT is diagnosis-restricted.<sup>i</sup> That is, pharmacists must include an appropriate diagnostic code (e.g., 305.1 Tobacco Use Disorder) on the claim that they submit to the State of Wisconsin Medicaid program. If the tobacco dependence treatment medication (i.e., NRT or Zyban<sup>®</sup>) is prescribed for reasons unrelated to tobacco use and dependence, the pharmacist must comply with Wisconsin Medicaid program prior authorization guidelines.<sup>ii</sup>  
Source: Wisconsin Medical Journal 2001 – Volume 100, No. 3. Burns ME, Fiore MC, Under-use of tobacco dependence treatment among Wisconsin’s fee-for-service Medicaid recipients.

<sup>i</sup> Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services. Wisconsin Medicaid Program Pharmacy Handbook, Appendices 20 and 30. Available at: <http://www.dhfs.state.wi.us/Medicaid2/handbooks/handbook.htm>. Accessed March 26, 2001.

<sup>ii</sup> Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services. Wisconsin Medicaid Program Pharmacy Handbook, Appendix 33. Available at: <http://www.dhfs.state.wi.us/Medicaid2/handbooks/handbook.htm>. Accessed March 26, 2001.