

BLUE CROSS & BLUE SHIELD OF MISSISSIPPI BE TOBACCO-FREE PROGRAM TREATING TOBACCO USE AND DEPENDENCE



BlueCrossBlueShield
of Mississippi
It's good to be Blue.

Important Information for the Out-of-State Physician:

For your convenience, the following information regarding best practices when assisting patients with cessation efforts has been compiled. This counseling checklist has been gathered from information used by the Partnership for a Healthy Mississippi – Tobacco Quitline and the American Lung Association.

Cessation Counseling Checklist

- Assess the patient's readiness to quit and their current tobacco usage.
- Provide encouragement and support.
- Provide counseling to address potential barriers to quitting, lessons learned from past quit attempts, setting a quit date and enlisting social support.
- Discuss with the patient their current medication usage.
- Discuss the tobacco cessation medications available, those being prescribed and proper usage to achieve maximum benefit:
 - Provide bupropion (generic Zyban®) & nicotine replacement therapy (NRT) as needed or prescribe Chantix™.
- If bupropion and/or NRT is used:
 - Provide appropriate prescription regimen based upon their current tobacco usage.
 - Counsel patient to take bupropion for 1-2 weeks before their quit date.
 - Counsel the patient to begin using the patch on their quit date and that continuing to smoke while using the patch may make them ill.
 - Counsel the patient on the proper use of an as needed medication to include using only when having a significant craving and tapering down over time.
- If Chantix™ is used:
 - Counsel patient to take Chantix™ 1 week before quit date. (NRT will not be covered with Chantix™).
- Discuss potential concerns of the patient which may include depression or weight gain.
- Schedule a follow-up visit to assess progress and celebrate success.

Filing Tobacco Cessation Electronically

Patients participating in the Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi Be Tobacco-free Program should not incur any out-of-pocket expense as a result of physician or pharmaceutical services related to tobacco cessation for a 90-day period. To ensure your medical office receives full reimbursement for the visit / counseling session, the **ICD-10 code F17.200 – nicotine dependence** – (or a related nicotine dependence code) should be utilized as the primary diagnosis code. Use CPT code **99406 or 99407**.

ICD-10 Code	CPT Code	Code Description
F17.200	99407	First time visit or new patient - Smoking and tobacco use cessation counseling visit; intensive greater than 10 minutes
F17.200	99406	Follow-up tobacco cessation visit - Smoking and tobacco use cessation counseling visit; intermediate greater than 3 minutes up to 10 minutes

Each visit should include the completion of medical history, a physical exam and decision making of straightforward to moderate complexity. A patient is limited to two office visits per 12 month period. If additional services are performed at the time of the office visit, charges must be tied to a separate diagnosis code to receive payment. Services provided outside of the code descriptions listed above should be filed as regular medical services performed in addition to the tobacco cessation program. These services will require a co-pay from the patient.

If you encounter any issues in filing claims electronically for these cessation efforts, your office should contact our Healthier Mississippi Team, at 601-664-4775 or 800-708-3371. Pharmacies may contact our Pharmacy Customer Service Team at 800-551-5258.