Introducing NASTAD's Updated PrEP, PEP, and Other HIV Prevention Strategies: Billing and Coding Guide

Nicole Elinoff, MPH, CPH, CHES®
Senior Manager, Prevention
NASTAD

Last Updated: 3/5/2024
No conflicts of interest to disclose
NASTAD’s mission is to advance the health and dignity of people living with and impacted by HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis, and intersecting epidemics by strengthening governmental public health and leveraging community partnerships.

NASTAD’s vision is a world committed to ending HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis, and intersecting epidemics.
Session Overview

Setting the Stage: PrEP Access Changes and Challenges

Overview: Updated Billing Guide
Setting the Stage: PrEP Access Changes, Challenges, and Guide Update Process
PrEP Access Landscape Changes

• Introduction and implementation of the United States Preventive Services Grade A recommendation for PrEP
• FDA approval of both TAF/FTC and long-acting injectable cabotegravir
• Introduction of Generic TDF/FTC
• Release of CDC’s updated PrEP clinical guidelines in 2021
Billing and Coding Challenges

Many buckets of challenges:

- Labs
  - Intervals
  - PrEP lab panels
- No ICD-10 code for PrEP, no “right” code
- Lack of capacity to manually check each claim to a health plan
- Health plan’s being unclear, inconsistent coverage
- Coded incorrectly
- Stigmatizing codes—high risk homosexual behavior
- Modifier 33 not being adopted
- Client’s employer plan is grandfathered unknowingly
Update Process

Guide Released October 5, 2023

- Identified Expert Billing and Coding Consultant (January 2023)
- Held Two Advisory Group Meetings (March 2 and 23, 2023)
- HIV Prevention Advisory Committee (FAPP) Convening (April 4, 2023)
- Key Informant Interviews, Request for Information, De-identified claims request (April - July)
- Comprehensive Guide Review (Internal and External) (July-September 2023)
Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP), Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP), and Other HIV Prevention Strategies

Billing and Coding Guide

October 2023

https://nastad.org/resources/billing-coding-guide-hiv-prevention
Update Overview

• Updates address:
  • USPSTF implementation
  • Long-acting injectable PrEP implementation
  • Self-testing
  • PEP
  • Troubleshooting claim denials
  • And more
New Tools & Resources Highlights

• ICD-10 code
• HCPCS codes
• Payer Policies
• NASTAD Billing and Coding Guide for HIV Prevention
  • Visits – PrEP, PEP, and TelePrEP
  • Modifiers
  • Denial and Appeal tools
Effective 10/1/2023

Z29.81 - Encounter for HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis

**Excludes 1**
- desensitization to allergens (Z51.6)
- prophylactic surgery (Z40.-)

**Code Also Notes**

if applicable, risk factors for HIV, such as:
- contact with and (suspected) exposure to human immunodeficiency virus [HIV] (Z20.6)
  The code description specifically states pre-exposure.
- high-risk sexual behavior (Z72.5-)
  The use of this code is not recommended due to the stigmatizing language.
## Resources for Altering Claim Outcome

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Claim Outcome</th>
<th>Resource</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| The claim was denied with no payment to the provider and no cost-share to the patient. | - Commonly occurring denials are listed with corrective action  
- Appeal letter templates with rationale and supporting resources  
- Always review payer policy before appealing a claim. Understand the denial reasons. |
| The claim was paid, but the payment amount or the patient cost-share or deductible did not process as expected | - Appeal letter templates with rationale and supporting resources.  
- Utilize NASTAD’s PrEP Cost Sharing Complaint Template  
- Confirm that the plan is not a grandfathered plan before appealing |
PrEP Cost-Sharing Complaint Template

• Customizable template letter to assist providers and patients issue a cost-sharing complaint

https://nastad.org/resources/prep-cost-sharing-template
Where to Learn More

• Webinar further detailing the guide and an FAQ are available
• https://nastad.org/resources/billing-coding-guide-hiv-prevention
Contact Information

PrEP@NASTAD.org

Nicole Elinoff
nelinoff@NASTAD.org
Acknowledgment

This Mountain West AIDS Education and Training (MWAETC) program is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award totaling $3,333,289 with 0% financed with non-governmental sources.

The content in this presentation are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement by, HRSA, HHS, or the U.S. Government.