

# PROVIDER Bulletin



## KERN HEALTH SYSTEMS

November 1, 2022

### All Plan Letter 22-016

#### Community Health Worker Services Benefit

Dear Provider,

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) released APL 22-016 on September 2, 2022, to provide Kern Health Systems (KHS) members with access to the Community Health Worker (CHW) Services Benefit.

Per State Plan Amendment (SPA) 22-0001, Community Health Worker (CHW) services are preventive health services as defined in Title 42 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) to prevent diseases, disability, and other health conditions or their progression; to prolong life; and to promote physical and mental health. The goal of the service is to enhance quality patient care by offering support to members to address barriers in accessing care, increasing level of engagement, improving health outcomes, reducing health disparities, and achieving health equity.

Network Providers who have CHWs on their workforce, or plan to in the future, will need to submit the CHW Application/Check List and the CHW Supervisor Attestation Form to KHS Provider Network Management Credentialing Department for review and approval. You will find the application on the KHS website under Provider resources.

**Once approved by KHS**, the following CPT codes may be used for all CHW services by the Supervising Provider when submitting claims:

CPT code	Description	Length	Number of Patients	Rate
98960	self-management education and training, face-to-face, 30 minutes	30 minutes	1	\$26.66
98961	self-management education and training, face-to-face, 30 minutes	30 minutes	2-4	\$12.66
98962	self-management education and training, face-to-face, 30 minutes	30 minutes	5-8	\$9.46

In addition, to the allowable modifiers that will be used with these CPT codes:

Modifiers	Description
U2	Used to denote services rendered by Community Health Workers
U3	Used to denote services rendered by Asthma Preventive Service Providers

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Maximum frequency is four units (two hours) daily per beneficiary. Additional units per day may be provided with KHS approval for medical necessity.

Please refer to APL 22-016 for more information on the CHW Provider requirements and qualification, requirements for the CHW Supervising Provider, and the eligibility for CHW services.

For additional information, please visit:

- <https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/Documents/MMCDAPLsandPolicyLetters/APL2022/APL22-016.pdf>
- <https://files.medi-cal.ca.gov/pubsdoco/Publications/masters-MTP/Part2/chwprev.pdf>
- [eCFR :: Title 42 of the CFR -- Public Health](#)
- <https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/laws/Documents/SPA-22-0001-Approval.pdf>
- [Medi-Cal NewsFlash: Medi-Cal Coverage of Community Health Worker \(CHW\) Services is Effective July 1, 2022](#)

KHS posts all bulletins on the KHS website, [www.kernfamilyhealthcare.com](http://www.kernfamilyhealthcare.com), choose Provider, then Bulletins.

For any questions, please contact your Provider Relations Representative at 1-800-391-2000 or my direct number at 661-426-7772.

Sincerely,  
Melinda Santiago, M.S., LMFT  
Provider Relations Manager  
Kern Health Systems