

# Behavioral Health Service Limit

## 12-Hour Daily Limitation

When providing behavioral health services, developmental screenings and testing to UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members in Texas, it's important to know care providers are limited to a maximum combined total of 12 hours per provider, per day, regardless of the number of patients seen. The following provider types are subject to this 12-hour daily limitation for inpatient or outpatient behavioral health services:

- Psychologists
- Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN)
- Physician Assistants (PA)
- Licensed Clinical Social Workers (LCSW)
- Licensed marriage and family therapist (LMFT)
- Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC)

No behavioral health services provider may be reimbursed for more than 12 hours of behavioral health services per day. As a result, all providers not subject to the 12-hour limitation, and each provider they delegate, are subject to retrospective review and recoupment.

Doctors of medicine (MDs) and doctors of osteopathic medicine (DOs) aren't subject to the 12-hour limitation because they can delegate services, and may submit claims in excess of 12 hours per day.

Psychologists can delegate to multiple Licensed Psychological Associates (LPAs), Provisionally Licensed Psychologists (PLPs), interns or post-doctoral fellows. This means delegated services aren't subject to the 12-hour limitation because they may submit claims for delegated services in excess of 12 hours per day.

Court-ordered and Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) directed services are not subject to the 12-hour per provider, per day system limitation when billed with modifier H9.

## Procedure Codes

Please review the following information to better understand the procedure codes included in the 12-hour service limitation, along with the time increments applied based on the billed procedure code.

Procedure Code	Description	Time Limit
90791	Psychiatric diagnostic evaluation (without medical services)	60 minutes
90792	Psychiatric diagnostic evaluation (with medical services)	60 minutes
90832	Individual psychotherapy	30 minutes
90833	Individual psychotherapy	30 minutes
90834	Individual psychotherapy	45 minutes
90836	Individual psychotherapy	45 minutes
90837	Individual psychotherapy	60 minutes
90838	Individual psychotherapy	60 minutes
90846	Family psychotherapy	50 minutes
90847	Family psychotherapy	50 minutes
96116	Neurobehavioral testing	60 minutes
96121	Neurobehavioral testing	60 minutes

96130	Psychological testing	60 minutes
96131	Psychological testing	60 minutes
96132	Neuropsychological testing	60 minutes
96133	Neuropsychological testing	60 minutes
96136	Test administration and scoring	60 minutes
96137	Test administration and scoring	60 minutes
96110	Developmental screening	30 minutes
96112	Developmental screening	60 minutes
96113	Developmental screening	30 minutes

## Modifiers

Services provided by a psychologist, LPA, PLP, psychological intern or post-doctoral fellow need to use the most appropriate single modifier along with procedure codes for licenses psychologists and their delegated services.

Modifier	Description
AH	Clinical psychologist
UB	Intern or post-doctoral psychology fellow
UC	LPA
U9	PLP

## Retrospective Review

We're reviewing our claims payments for these services for the past year. Errors may have occurred related to missing or inappropriate corresponding codes or therapy duration over the allowable time without a prior authorization for continued treatment. We'll reach out to you directly if it's determined we've made payments in error.

## Questions?

For more information, go to [tmhp.com](http://tmhp.com) > Providers > Medicaid Provider Manual > [Texas Medicaid Provider Procedures Manual](#). Or, go to [UHCprovider.com/TXcommunityplan](http://UHCprovider.com/TXcommunityplan) > Care Provider Manuals > [Texas](#).

## We're Here to Help

If you have questions, please contact your Provider or Physician Advocate or call Customer Service at **888-887-9003**, 8 a.m. – 6 p.m., Central Time, Monday – Friday. Thank you.

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan is the trade name of UnitedHealthcare Insurance Company in the Texas Health and Human Services Commission's STAR+PLUS Central and Northeast Medicaid Rural Service Areas. UnitedHealthcare Community Plan is the trade name of UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Texas LLC in the following service delivery areas: Jefferson, Harris, Hidalgo, Nueces and Travis.

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