



Questions regarding this guidance may be directed to [mpassunit@alaska.gov](mailto:mpassunit@alaska.gov) in the Subject Line please note: Z Code Guidance

October 15, 2021

**SFY 2022 – DBH Guidance Document # 3- Update to guidance issued November 27, 2020**

**Z Codes as a Primary Diagnosis for State Plan Services**

*Expansions for Z59; Homelessness*

### **Background**

Coding, billing, and claims processing rules require claims submitted to contain a valid International Classification of Diseases, 10<sup>th</sup> Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM) code on the claim. ICD-10-CM Official Guidelines govern appropriate use and sequencing of ICD-10 codes. Adherence to these guidelines to assign ICD-10 codes is required under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this document is to define the circumstances when Alaska Medicaid will allow submission of select Z codes as a primary ICD-10 code on state plan services claims. This guidance applies to claims processed by Optum, the Division of Behavioral Health's Administrative Services Organization (ASO) contractor.

### **Guidance**

#### *Screening and Assessment*

Screening tools are the first step towards assessment and treatment. At the time of screening, a recipient may not have an established diagnosis.

Guidance for using an ICD-10 Z code as a primary diagnosis for screening and assessment services is limited to the following HCPCS and CPT codes. These ICD-10 codes should *only* be used in instances when a recipient does not have an established diagnosis.

- Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral for Treatment (SBIRT) – CPT code 99408
- Behavioral Health Screen – HCPCS code T1023
- Alcohol and/or Drug Assessment – HCPCS code H0001
- Mental Health Intake Assessment – HCPCS code H0031
- Integrated Mental Health & Substance Use Intake Assessment – HCPCS code H0031-HH
- Psychiatric Assessment – Diagnostic Eval – CPT code 90791

The Division of Behavioral Health has approved the ICD-10 codes listed below as acceptable primary diagnosis on claims when billing for services rendered to a recipient without an established diagnosis.

- Z13.30 – Encounter for screening examination for mental health and behavioral health disorders, unspecified
- Z13.31 – Encounter for screening for depression
- Z13.32 – Encounter for screening for maternal depression
- Z13.39 – Encounter for screening examination for other mental health and behavioral disorders
- Z13.41 – Encounter for autism screening

#### *Short Term Crisis Intervention*

In certain circumstances, it may be possible to identify a mental or behavioral disorder from the recipient's presentation, however this is not always the case. Providers must accurately select a recipient's crisis related condition or circumstance to report an ICD-10 code on a claim.

Guidance for using an ICD-10 Z code as a primary diagnosis for short term crisis intervention is limited to the following HCPCS codes. These ICD-10 codes should only be used in instances when a recipient does not have an established diagnosis, or a mental or behavioral disorder is not apparent from the recipient's presentation.

- Short Term Crisis Intervention Service (1 hour) – HCPCS code S9484
- Short Term Crisis Intervention Service (15 minutes) – HCPCS code S9484-U6
- Short Term Crisis Stabilization Service – HCPCS code H2011

The Division of Behavioral Health has approved the ICD-10 codes listed below as acceptable primary diagnosis on claims when billing for services rendered to a recipient without an established diagnosis.

- R45.850 – Homicidal ideation
- R45.851 – Suicidal ideation
- Z59.0 – Homelessness
- Z59.00 – Homelessness Unspecified
- Z59.01 – Sheltered Homelessness

- Z59.02 – Unsheltered Homelessness
- Z59.1– Inadequate housing
- Z59.2 – Discord with neighbors, lodgers, and landlord
- Z59.3 – Problems related to living in residential institution
- Z59.4 – Lack of adequate food
- Z59.41 – Food insecurity
- Z59.48 – Other specified lack of adequate food
- Z59.5 –Extreme poverty
- Z59.6 – Low income
- Z59.7– Insufficient social insurance and welfare support
- Z59.8 – Other problems related to housing and economic circumstances
- Z59.81 – Housing instability, housed
- Z59.811 – Housing instability, housed, with risk of homelessness
- Z59.812 – Housing instability, housed, homeless within the last 12 months
- Z59.819 – Housing instability, housed, unspecified
- Z59.989 – Other problems related to housing and economic circumstances
- Z59.9– Problem related to housing and economic circumstances unspecified
- Z60.0 – Problems of adjustment to life-cycle transitions
- Z60.2 – Problems related to living alone
- Z60.3 – Acculturation difficulty
- Z60.4 – Social exclusion and rejection
- Z60.5 – Target of (perceived) adverse discrimination and persecution
- Z60.8 – Other problems related to social environment
- Z60.9 – Problem related to social environment, unspecified
- Z63.0 – Problems in relationship with spouse or partner
- Z63.1 – Problems in relationship with in-laws
- Z63.31 – Absence of family member due to military deployment
- Z63.32 – Other absence of family member
- Z63.4 – Disappearance and death of family member
- Z63.5 – Disruption of family by separation and divorce
- Z63.6 – Dependent relative needing care at home
- Z63.71 – Stress on family due to return of family member from military deployment
- Z63.72 – Alcoholism and drug addiction in family
- Z63.79 – Other stressful life events affecting family and household
- Z63.8 – Other specified problems related to primary support group
- Z63.9 – Problem related to primary support group, unspecified
- Z65.0 – Conviction in civil and criminal proceedings without imprisonment
- Z65.1 – Imprisonment and other incarceration

- Z65.2 – Problems related to release from prison
- Z65.3 – Problems related to other legal circumstances
- Z65.4 – Victim of crime and terrorism
- Z65.5 – Exposure to disaster, war and other hostilities
- Z65.8 – Other specified problems related to psychosocial circumstances
- Z65.9 – Problem related to unspecified psychosocial circumstances
- Z69.010 – Encounter for mental health services for victim of parental child abuse
- Z69.011 – Encounter for mental health services for perpetrator of parental child abuse
- Z69.020 – Encounter for mental health services for victim of non-parental child abuse
- Z69.021 – Encounter for mental health services for perpetrator of non-parental child abuse
- Z69.11 – Encounter for mental health services for victim of spousal or partner abuse
- Z69.12 – Encounter for mental health services for perpetrator of spousal or partner abuse
- Z69.81 – Encounter for mental health services for victim of other abuse
- Z69.82 – Encounter for mental health services for perpetrator of other abuse
- Z91.89 – Other specified personal risk factors, not elsewhere classified