

ATTENTION Care at Home Waiver (CAH) III, IV, and VI Case Management Providers
New Billing Guidance Effective for Dates of Service Beginning April 1, 2017

Effective January 20, 2017, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approved the consolidation of the Care at Home III, IV, and VI waivers into the “OPWDD Care at Home Waiver.” The new waiver will continue to serve medically fragile children under the age of eighteen (18) who have a developmental disability and live at home with their parent(s) or legal guardian(s). The purpose of the consolidation is to streamline and strengthen New York State’s administrative oversight and reporting mechanisms for these waiver programs.

Children who are currently enrolled under the CAH III, CAH IV or CAH VI Waivers, and who continued to meet eligibility requirements as of January 20, 2017 are automatically included in the new consolidated waiver. There will be no disruption in services for children served under the OPWDD Care at Home Waiver.

Effective for dates of service beginning **April 1, 2017**, all CAH case management services must be billed using the following rate codes, regardless of which waiver the child was enrolled in prior to April 1, 2017:

Rate Code 2326

OPWDD CAH CASE MANAGEMENT INITIAL

This new “transition services” rate code is billable only during the first month of the child’s enrollment in the waiver. This special higher transition rate reflects reimbursement for the additional workload associated with CAH waiver enrollment and plan development activities and is only to be used for the child’s **initial** participation in a waiver program. This rate includes all intake and screening activities, preparation or coordination of all enrollment documents, and development of the initial plan of services (Plan of Care). The case manager must have face-to-face contact with the child in order to develop the initial plan of care. **Billing of rate code 2326 is allowed once per lifetime. No additional CAH case management billings can occur in the first month of waiver enrollment.**

Rate Code 2320

OPWDD CAH CASE MANAGEMENT PER DIEM

This new “face-to-face services” rate code is billable once monthly and reimburses all case management activities necessary for the provision of the required monthly face-to-face contact with the child. In order to bill for the monthly service, the case manager must have direct face-to-face contact with the child. **Billing of rate code 2320 is allowed once per month, starting in the second month of waiver enrollment.**

Rate Code 2311**OPWDD CAH CASE MANAGEMENT ¼ HOUR**

Ongoing routine case management activities that do not involve a face-to-face service will continue to be reimbursed on a per-unit basis. This reimbursement allows for the provision of additional support services necessary to ensure the health and safety of the child, and to support service plan development.

Billing of rate code 2311 is capped at eight (8) units per month.

Services are billed in units of fifteen minute intervals and should be calculated as follows:

1 unit = 5-15 minutes

2 units = 16-30 minutes

3 units = 31-45 minutes

4 units = 46-60 minutes, etc.

Please refer to the [October 27, 2014 GIS](#) for additional information pertaining to acceptable case management billing practices and documentation requirements.

Claims submitted for case management services under the CAH III waiver (rate code 2305) or CAH VI waiver (rate code 2317) for services provided on or after April 1, 2017 will be denied.

In addition, beginning April 1, 2017, there will be one Restriction/Exception Code (R/E code) used for all children receiving OPWDD CAH services. The R/E code to be used is 65, which is the current R/E code for CAH IV. R/E codes 64 (CAH III) and 67 (CAH VI) will no longer be valid. R/E codes for children enrolled in CAH III and CAH VI on April 1, 2017 will be automatically changed to R/E code 65.

Any questions can be directed to Lynda Baum-Jakubiak, Statewide CAH Coordinator at 518-486-6466 or via e-mail at careathome@opwdd.ny.gov.