



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Health Benefits

ROY COOPER • Governor
KODY H. KINSLEY • Secretary
JAY LUDLAM • Deputy Secretary, NC Medicaid

SIGNATURE REQUEST MEMORANDUM

TO: Jay Ludlam ^{DS}
FROM: Betty J. Staton, SPA Manager
RE: State Plan Amendment

Title XIX, Social Security Act
Transmittal #2024-0016

Purpose

Attached for your review and signature is a Medicaid State Plan Amendment (Substance Abuse Comprehensive Outpatient Treatment (SACOT)) summarized below, and submitted on April 10, 2024, with a due date of April 15, 2024.

Clearance

This amendment has been reviewed for both accuracy and completeness by:

Betty J. Staton, Emma Sandoe, Melanie Bush, Lotta Crabtree, Adam Levinson

Background and Summary of Request

It is recommended that you sign this State Plan Amendment submission per Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) protocol as head of the Single State Agency administering the Medicaid program.

Please find attached a State Plan Amendment (SPA) that includes the Substance Abuse Comprehensive Outpatient Treatment (SACOT) and to assign a reimbursement rate of \$64.52 per hourly rate. This policy is being revised to reflect the 2013 American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) language and criteria for this service. Proposed revisions include clarification of service and staffing requirements, rewriting this as a stand-alone policy as opposed to a part of a larger policy as is currently done and updating ASAM language and criteria from the ASAM Criteria Manual, 2013.

The proposed effective date of the SPA is May 01, 2024.

Your approval of this State Plan Amendment is requested. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (919) 538-3215.

State Plan Under Title XIX of the Social Security Act
 Medical Assistance Program
 State: NORTH CAROLINA

13. d. Diagnostic, Screening, Treatment, Preventive and Rehabilitative Services (continued)
Description of Services

(xii) Substance Abuse Comprehensive Outpatient Treatment (SACOT) ASAM Level 2.5

This service is a clinically intensive partial hospitalization program that provides skilled treatment services in a structured outpatient recovery environment, for adults 18 years of age and older with a primary substance use disorder. SACOT is an American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) Level 2.5 service that provides 20 or more hours of clinically intensive programming per week.

This service includes:

- Individual therapy, counseling, and support
- Group therapy, counseling, and support
- Family counseling and support
- Biochemical assessments to identify recent drug use (e.g. urine drug screens),
- Coordination and referral for ancillary services
- Education on relapse prevention and the development of support systems in treatment
- Education on life skills and crisis contingency planning
- Education on physical health management
- Reproductive health education
- A planned format of therapies, delivered on an individual and group basis and adapted to the beneficiary's developmental stage and comprehension level
- Service coordination activities

Family counseling and support and group counseling, therapy and support are provided only for the direct benefit of the beneficiary.

While receiving SACOT services, a beneficiary must have ready access to psychiatric assessment and treatment services when warranted by the presence of symptoms indicating co-occurring substance use and mental health disorders. Medical, psychological, psychiatric, laboratory, and toxicology services must be available through consultation or referral. Psychiatric and other medical consultation must be available by telephone, telehealth, or in-person.

SACOT programs shall support beneficiaries who are prescribed or would benefit from medications, including but not limited to, medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD), to address their substance use or mental health diagnoses. Coordination of care with prescribing physicians is required. SACOT providers shall ensure that all programs have access to naloxone or other Federal Food and Drug Administration approved opioid antagonists for drug overdose on site, and that all staff have training and education on the use of opioid antagonists.

This service must be provided in a facility licensed by the State or by an Indian Health Service (IHS) or 638 contract or compact operated by a Federally Recognized Tribe as allowed in USC CH. 18: INDIAN HEALTH CARE §1621t Licensing and §1647a Nondiscrimination under federal health care programs in qualifications for reimbursement services.

State Plan Under Title XIX of the Social Security Act
Medical Assistance Program
State: NORTH CAROLINA

13. d. Diagnostic, Screening, Treatment, Preventive and Rehabilitative Services (continued)
Description of Services

This service can only be provided by qualified substance abuse professional staff with the following NC licenses or certifications:

- certified substance abuse counselors (CSAC) or certified alcohol and drug counselors (CADC), CADC-Interns [a CADC applicant who has passed the International Certification & Reciprocity Consortium (IC & RC) Alcohol and Drug Counselor Exam and completed 300 hours of supervised work with a Certified Clinical Supervisor (CCS) or Clinical Supervisor Intern (CSI) at a ratio of 1 hour of supervision per 10 hours of work]; and
- licensed clinical addiction specialists (LCAS), associate level LCAS, certified clinical supervisor (CCS).

This service must be ordered by a physician, licensed psychologist, physician assistant or nurse practitioner.

In accordance with 25 U.S.C. 1621t, licensed health professionals employed by a tribal health program are exempt, if licensed in any state, from the licensing requirements of the State (North Carolina) in which the tribal health program performs the services described in the contract or compact of the tribal health program under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450 et seq.).

TN No: 24-0016
Supersedes
TN No: NEW

Approval Date:

Effective Date: 05/01/2024

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE
State: North Carolina

PAYMENTS FOR MEDICAL AND REMEDIAL CARE AND SERVICE

6) Substance Abuse Comprehensive Outpatient Treatment Program (H2035) (SACOT)

Except as otherwise noted in the plan, state-developed fee schedule rates are the same for both governmental and private providers of Substance Abuse Comprehensive Outpatient Treatment Program. The agency's fee schedule rate of \$45.35 per hour was set as of July 1, 2012. The fee schedule is published on the Division of Health Benefits at https://ncdhhs.servicenowservices.com/fee_schedules

Effective May 1, 2024, the agency's published Enhanced Mental Health Services fee schedule rates are effective for services provided on or after that date. The Enhanced Mental Health Services fee schedule is published on the Division of Health Benefits website at https://ncdhhs.servicenowservices.com/fee_schedules

This service will be provided by direct enrolled Medicaid providers who may be either private or governmental. This service is not cost settled for any provider. This service is provided in accordance with Attachment 3.1- A.1 Page 15a.10, Paragraph 13.D., subparagraph (xii).

The facilities providing this service are not IMD facilities and NC Medicaid is not reimbursing room and board for this service.

In the event this service is operated by a 638 Compact or Indian Health Service Provider, the rate of reimbursement shall be the All-Inclusive Rate (AIR) established on an annual basis as published in the Federal Register.

In the event this service is operated by a 638 Compact or Indian Health Service Provider and is not covered under the criteria to receive the All-Inclusive Rate (AIR), the provider is subject to the NC Medicaid Fee Schedule or other agreed upon rate(s) by the payor.

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Supersedes
TN No: 22-0008

Approval Date:

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