

## **TOBACCO COUNSELING Coding Changes for 2008**

99406

Smoking and tobacco use cessation counseling visit; intermediate, greater than 3 minutes up to 10 minutes.

99407

Intensive, greater than 10 minutes (do not report 99407 in conjunction with 99406)

Codes 99406 and 99407

The codes were established to report a face-to-face encounter to discuss smoking and tobacco use cessation counseling. These codes differ according to time increments. Code 99406 was established to report a counseling visit of intermediate intensity from 3 minutes up to 10 minutes, and 99407 is intended for an intensive counseling visit of greater than 10 minutes. It would not be appropriate to report 99406 in conjunction with 99407. These two codes can be reported in addition to usual E&M codes; it is recommended that a 25 modifier is appended to the primary office visit code.

**WHEN CLINICIANS PROVIDE TREATMENT TO PATIENTS DEPENDENT UPON TOBACCO, THE FOLLOWING DIAGNOSTIC CODES CAN BE USED:**

**305.1 Tobacco Use Disorder**

Cases in which tobacco is used to the detriment of a person's health or social functioning or in which there is a tobacco dependence. Dependence is included here rather than under drug dependence because tobacco differs from other drugs of dependence in its psychotropic effect.

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