



**TO:** All Specialty Mental Health County & Contracted Staff Providing Medication Support Services  
(Exception for CSU Staff)

**FROM:** Serina Sanchez, DHS-BHD Quality Assurance Manager

**CC:** Chris Marlow, DHS-BHD QAPI Section Manager

**DATE:** August 31, 2023

**RE:** Guidance Regarding Claiming for Medication Injection Services by LVN/LPT

With the implementation of the utilization of CPT/HCPC codes, the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) acknowledges and recognizes there is a Medi-Cal billing issue for Licensed Vocational Nurses (LVNs) and Licensed Psychiatric Technicians (LPTs) with proper education and certification, under the supervision of a Registered Nurse or Physician, administering medications intravenously to clients despite their scope of practice. Currently, DHCS and the Medi-Cal Billing Manual, do not allow for LVNs and LPTs to use the proper procedure code. On August 25, 2023, DHCS issued guidance and while the Department awaits for DHCS to clarify in version 1.5 of the Specialty Mental Health Services billing manual, this memo provides directions on how to code for all modes of medication administration provided by LVNs and LPTs rendered post-July 1, 2023.

**A. Procedure Code for Medication Administration by LVNs and LPTs**

LVNs and LPTs who administer medication services are to document services using the respective HCPC procedure code outlined below for **all modes** of medication administration—

- H0033— Oral Medication Administration

The Department is working with CalMHSA to determine if the procedure code name displayed in the electronic health record can reflect this guidance. All other nursing staff and medical providers should continue to bill using appropriate CPT/HCPC code.

Any questions related to documentation, including guidance outlined in this memo, please contact [BHQA@sonoma-county.org](mailto:BHQA@sonoma-county.org).