



Governor
Douglas A. Ducey

Arizona Board of Psychologist Examiners

1740 W. Adams St., Suite 3403
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
Phone (602) 542-8163 Fax (602) 542-8279
<https://psychboard.az.gov>

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BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST EXAMINERS BEHAVIOR ANALYST BILLING CODES WORKGROUP REGULAR SESSION MINUTES

*November 14, 2016
12:00 p.m.
1400 W. Washington, Suite 280
Phoenix, AZ 85007*

1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular session of the Arizona State Board of Psychologist Examiners Behavior Analyst Billing Codes Workgroup was called to order by Dr. Wechsler at 12:00 pm on November 14, 2016. No Executive Sessions were held.

2. ROLL CALL

Workgroup Members Present

Frederick S. Wechsler, Ph.D., Psy.D., ABPP - Chair
Bob Bohanske, Ph.D.
Bryan Davey, Ph.D.
Joe Gentry, Ph.D.
Barbara Tyson

Staff Present

Dr. Cindy Olvey - Executive Director
Krishna Poe, Administrative Assistant

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MEETING HELD OCTOBER 31, 2016

a. Regular Session – October 31, 2016

Dr. Bohanske made a motion, seconded by Dr. Davey, and carried unanimously (5-0), to approve the October 31, 2016, Behavior Analyst Billing Codes Workgroup Regular Session minutes as drafted.

4. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION PERTAINING TO POLICY DEVELOPED BY THE ARIZONA HEALTH CARE COST CONTAINMENT SYSTEM (“AHCCCS”) REGARDING BILLING CODES AND SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS FOR USE BY BEHAVIOR ANALYSTS, POSSIBLE REVISIONS TO THE SAME, AND POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD

Dr. Wechsler summarized that Ms. Tyson drafted a policy based on the Workgroup's discussion at the last meeting. Workgroup members had the draft policy before them for consideration and possible revision. Dr. Wechsler called attention to the fact that the draft policy listed the following codes H0001, H0002, and H0015 which were contained in the original billing codes service list, but not in the updated list, reviewed at the October 31, 2016, meeting. The Workgroup agreed to request Ms. Tyson strike these codes from the draft policy. Ms. Tyson affirmed the codes would be stricken from the policy.

Dr. Wechsler addressed the specific language used in the draft policy and whether or not Workgroup members felt the language used in the policy was clear enough based on what the group hoped to accomplish. Dr. Gentry commented that he liked that the policy allowed for revisions and changes, if needed, in the future. Dr. Bohanske expressed that the language in the policy added to confusion and suggested changing the term "Board Certified Behavior Analyst" to "Licensed Behavior Analyst" and the abbreviation "BCBA" to "LBA", throughout the policy.

Dr. Wechsler also inquired if the provider type could be changed from "BC" to "BA" or "LBA" but Ms. Tyson stated that the provider code had already been assigned by AHCCCS and would be difficult to be modified. The requested revision would need to be done through the process of provider registration and provider credentialing which was outside of her department. After discussion, the workgroup decided to accept the provider type of "BC" as drafted.

Dr. Davey requested the language of "behavioral analyst" services be changed to "behavior analytic" services to read more accurately. Dr. Olvey also addressed the references to "The Arizona Board of Psychology" should be change to "The State of Arizona Board of Psychologist Examiners", throughout the policy, to reflect the correct name of the Board.

Dr. Bohanske addressed the fact that the draft policy did not include a definition of the scope of practice for Licensed Behavior Analysts and the services, when provided by a Behavior Analyst, would differ from other practitioners, while using the same billing codes. A statement that addressed this would help with clarity, especially in the case of a potential audit. Dr. Gentry suggested the addition of the statement, "Licensed Behavior Analysts provide specialized services; as such, clinical notes may not specifically match the CMS CPT or HCPCS description, which were originally developed for a different practice area."

Dr. Bohanske made a motion, seconded by Dr. Wechsler, and carried unanimously (5-0), to accept the policy, as amended, and forward the draft policy to AHCCCS for review and to the full Board for review at the December 9, 2016, Board Meeting. Dr. Olvey clarified that the motion included striking codes H0001 and H0002 from the policy, to which the Workgroup agreed.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Bohanske made a motion, seconded by Dr. Gentry, to adjourn the meeting at 12:31pm. The Motion carried 5-0.