

# MEDICAL ASSISTANCE BULLETIN

<b>ISSUE DATE</b> December 29, 2008	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b> January 1, 2009	<b>NUMBER</b> 18-09-01
<b>SUBJECT</b> Addition of Procedure Codes to the Medical Assistance Program Fee Schedule for Office Visits for Optometrists	<b>BY</b>  Michael Nardone, Deputy Secretary Office of Medical Assistance Programs	

## **PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this Medical Assistance (MA) Bulletin is to notify optometrists that the Department of Public Welfare (Department) is adding four office visit evaluation and management procedure codes, 99204, 99205, 99214 and 99215, to the MA Program Fee Schedule for Optometrists, effective with dates of service on and after January 1, 2009. These evaluation and management office visit procedure codes reflect moderate to high complexity service provision for optometrists and are used for both new and established patients.

## **SCOPE:**

This MA Bulletin applies to optometrists enrolled in the MA Program who provide services to MA recipients in the Fee-for-Service delivery system, including ACCESS Plus and the managed care delivery system. Optometrists who provide services to MA recipients in the managed care delivery system should address any specific procedure coding questions to the appropriate managed care organization.

## **BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:**

The Department met with the Pennsylvania Optometric Association regarding their concerns that moderate to high complexity evaluation and management office visit procedure codes 99204, 99205, 99214 and 99215, were not compensable to optometrists under the MA Program.

Subsequent to the meeting, the Pennsylvania Optometric Association submitted medical record documentation related to optometrists' provision of moderate to high complexity evaluation and management office visits. Upon review of the medical record documentation, the Department agreed that these visits are within optometrists' scope of practice and should be compensable under the MA Program. As a result, the Department is adding moderate to

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The appropriate toll-free number for your provider type.

Visit the Office of Medical Assistance Programs Web site at [www.dpw.state.pa.us/omap](http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/omap)

high complexity evaluation and management office visit procedure codes 99204, 99205, 99214 and 99215 to the MA Program Fee Schedule for optometrists.

**PROCEDURE:**

Effective with dates of service on and after January 1, 2009, the MA Program will make payment to optometrists (Provider Type 18) for office visit procedure codes 99204, 99205, 99214 and 99215 as shown on the attached chart.

The MA Program Fee Schedule has been updated to reflect these changes. Providers may access the on-line version of the fee schedule at the Office of Medical Assistance Programs (OMAP) website at:

<http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/PartnersProviders/MedicalAssistance/>.

**ATTACHMENT:**

18. Additions to Medical Assistance Program Fee Schedule for Optometrist – Provider Type