

Provider Bulletin

News and Information



January 30, 2023

Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) Update

Effective Jan. 1, 2023, UCare members enrolled in Prepaid Medical Assistance Program, MinnesotaCare, UCare's Minnesota Senior Health Options, Minnesota Senior Care Plus, UCare Connect and UCare Connect + Medicare are eligible to access substance use disorder (SUD) services after completing a SUD screening through the SBIRT process.

SBIRT is an evidence-based early intervention approach used to identify:

- patients who use alcohol and other drugs at risky levels
- individuals with substance use disorders and those who are at risk of developing these disorders

SBIRT is used to reduce and prevent SUD via screening tools, brief interventions, and referral to treatment if needed. The goal of SBIRT is to improve community health by reducing the prevalence of adverse consequences of substance misuse, including SUDs, through early intervention and when needed, referral to treatment.

The philosophy behind SBIRT is that catching concerns about someone's use of mood-altering chemicals sooner rather than later helps provide earlier intervention and ideally prevent the use of mood-altering chemicals from progressing further. This process is a great step forward to addressing the SUD concerns that may lead to someone accessing medical care.

The following providers are eligible to provide SBIRT:

- Physicians
- Physician Assistants
- Nurse Midwives
- Licensed Psychologists (LP)
- Psychiatrists
- Nurse Practitioners
- Mental Health Practitioners working as clinical trainees under the supervision of a Mental Health Professional
- Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN)
- Licensed Independent Clinical Social Workers (LICSW)
- Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists (LMFT)
- Licensed Professional Clinical Counselors (LPCC)
- Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselors (LADC)
- Tribal Certified Professionals
- Psychiatric Nurse Practitioners (NP)

Eligible providers must utilize these valid and reliable substance use disorder screening tools recommended by the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS):

- ASSIST
- AUDIT
- AUDIT-C
- CAGE
- CRAFFT
- DAST
- DAST-A
- MAST
- NIDA
- POSIT
- TWEAK

SBIRT Screening / Assessment Codes		
SERVICES	UNIT	SBIRT PROCEDURE CODE
Alcohol and/or substance abuse screening and brief intervention	5-14 minutes	G2011
	15-30 minutes	G0396
	Greater than 30 minutes	G0397

If a member’s SBIRT result indicates that they need treatment, the member can choose to receive up to **six (6) total hours** of the following Substance Use Disorder (SUD) services provided by the SUD provider of their choice prior to completing a comprehensive assessment. It is important to note that effective Jan. 1, 2023, the SBIRT modifier should be included on all claims for services rendered as the result of a positive screening:

UD Billing Codes		
SERVICES	PROCEDURE CODE	SBIRT MODIFIER
4 hours Individual Treatment OR	H2035	U1
4 hours Group Treatment and	H2035 HQ	U1
2 hours Treatment Coordination OR	T1016 U8 HN	U1
2 hours Peer Support Services	H0038 U8	U1

Note:

- The member must complete the six hours of SUD services within three months of the first date of service.
- Prior authorization of services is **not** required for contracted providers.

Contact UCare’s Provider Assistance Center at 612-676-3300 or 1-888-531-1493 (toll free), Monday - Friday, 8 am - 5 pm with any questions.