

Date: September 17, 2020
To: All Mental Health Contractors and Providers
From: County of Santa Clara, Behavioral Health Services Department (CSC,BHSD)
Re: DHCS, [Behavioral Health Information Notice No: 20-043](#)
Subject: 2020 ICD-10 Included Diagnosis

This memo is to inform providers of two important recent changes in included diagnosis:

1. **ICD-10 Code R69:** Diagnosis Deferred (Illness, unspecified) has been **DELETED** from the covered diagnosis list. R69 is no longer supported by DHCS and was removed from DSM-5. This change was effective as of July 8, 2020.

All claims after July 8, 2020 with an R69 diagnosis will be denied by the state. Please review the diagnoses and take action, as appropriate, for all active beneficiaries who currently have an R69 diagnosis.

2. **ICD-10 Code Z03.89:** No Diagnosis. The description is changed from “No Diagnosis” to “Encounter for observation for other suspected diseases and conditions ruled out.” Examples for use of Z03.89 diagnosis may include when providing crisis intervention, crisis stabilization, or during the assessment phase of a beneficiary’s treatment when a diagnosis has yet to be established. This description meets requirements for a billable code, effective October 1, 2019.

Z03.89 is expected to be a temporary code and must be replaced upon completion of a beneficiary’s medical necessity determination, during the initial assessment process. CSC BHSD will limit the use of Z03.89 to the first 60 days of service. Claims for beneficiaries with a Z03.89 diagnosis after the first 60 days of service will be disallowed.

Please contact CSC BHSD QA for any questions or concerns at:
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