

Reimbursement for smoking cessation: Every smoker, every visit

Most clinicians do not bill Medicare, Medicaid, or Commercial carriers for the advice they offer to patients on quitting smoking. The resources below provide clinicians with an explanation of physician reimbursement for smoking cessation interventions, and a set of tools that optimize use of physician and support staff time to deliver evidence-based smoking cessation interventions regardless of the patients' readiness to quit. The documentation templates support reimbursement for smoking cessation at every visit. Although the reimbursement of \$12-20 per visit with an annual limit of eight sessions for Medicare, and six sessions for Medicaid, is modest, a small effort to re-engineer your practice flow to support smoking cessation will substantially impact on the health of your patients. Full coverage details and codes for reimbursement are included in the documents.

Resources

Outline for Practice Transformation

Tools to assist clinicians in organizing effective delivery of smoking cessation services in the office setting: [Outline for Practice Transformation](#) summarizes the essential details of patient flow, documentation, and coding for reimbursement.

<http://www.nysmokefree.com/subpage.aspx?p=70&p1=70230&curcat=7075>

Guide to Build a Better Office System

This guide, produced by the American Academy of Family Physicians, addresses the U.S. Public Health Service's (USPHS) Clinical Practice Guideline; *Treating Tobacco Use and Dependence* 2008 Update, recommendation for clinicians to change the clinical culture and practice patterns in their offices to ensure that every patient who uses tobacco is identified, advised to quit, and offered evidence-based treatments.

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<http://www.nysmokefree.com/subpage.aspx?p=70&p1=70230&curcat=7080>

NYS Smokers' Quitline

A complete source of patient resources for smoking cessation including tools for clinicians to facilitate patient referrals

<http://www.nysmokefree.com/>