

Questions Asked During Live Webinar Broadcast on 1/9/19



Implementing SBIRT in Rural Clinics: A How to Guide

Presenter: Christine Chasek, PhD, LIMHP, LADC,
MAC

What CPT codes are you using?

A: The CPT codes that clinics could use are included here on the link. <https://www.samhsa.gov/sbirt/coding-reimbursement>

Have you received much feedback from clients who participate in a screen and then are referred to treatment and complete a full assessment? I'm curious if individuals feel much "screening/assessment fatigue" and feel like they've been answering the same questions too much, too frequently.

A: We have not had that experience as the assessment is much more comprehensive and the screening is so brief. Patients have actually been very surprised by the information when shared with them.

Have you used this program in an inpatient mental health facility?

A: We have used SBIRT in our inpatient mental health facility with students who are interning with them. The patients then are referred for a full assessment with a PRN Substance Use Counselor if appropriate.

The A & D assessment tools you mentioned have been around a long time. Are these the most effective screening tools available today?

A: These are the most well researched and validated tools that are frequently used as best practice models.

Regarding barriers, have you run into challenges with providers not wanting to conduct SBI because of the fear of how it may be documented in the Explanation of Benefits statements?

A: Yes this has been a significant barrier in many ways. Physicians don't want the information in the chart and we have not had any clinic want to bill for it. They are very worried about the information being shared and impacting the patient negatively.

For billing, have you encountered any providers having an issue to bill for Screening if the screening alone is under 15 minutes? (the cpt codes only allow for billing if SBI is a minimum of 15mins)

A: We have not had providers will to bill so we have not run into this. However, there is a "longer" SBIRT intervention that is designed to be conducted in 15 minutes. The intervention phase moves into more motivation and goal setting then the shorter intervention.

I curious on the MAC , I have a Masters in Addiction Counseling from Hazelden am I able to use MAC ? I have never seen that. I am also a LADC.

A: Yes you are be able to use these credentials to conduct screenings. You also should be able to work in integrated settings with the LADC, of course it depends on the employer.

What does ASSIST stand for?

A: Alcohol, Smoking, and Substance Involvement Screening Test

Here is a link to the tool and more information. https://www.who.int/substance_abuse/activities/assist/en/

What sort of informed consent documentation do patients sign?

A: They sign the standard informed consent required by the clinic. It is part of their medical visit. If they are referred to the counseling office for further assessment the counseling informed consent is also signed.