

July 27, 2023

## Proposition 56 Directed Payments for ACE Screenings

Dear provider,

Through Proposition 56, the Health Plan of San Mateo (HPSM) is required to render payment to providers who screen for Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs). An ACE screening evaluates children and adults for trauma that occurred during the first 18 years of life and helps primary care clinicians assess risk for toxic stress, plan for proper treatment, and more.

To perform ACE screenings, providers must:

1. Participate in “Becoming ACEs Aware in California,” a free, two-hour training that can be done online. Providers can learn more about this training and access training modules here: <https://www.acesaware.org/learn-about-screening/training/>
2. After completing the training, providers must self-attest to completing the training.

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) maintains a list of providers who have self-attested to their completion of the training and can be accessed by emailing [questions@ACEsAware.org](mailto:questions@ACEsAware.org).

Providers are encouraged to join the ACEs Aware Clinician Directory so the Health Plan of San Mateo (HPSM) can quickly verify providers are certified to receive Prop 56 payments.

### The directed payments vary by procedure code:

Procedure Code	Description	Minimum Fee Schedule Amount
G9919	Screening performed – results positive and provision of recommendations provided (Note: Providers must bill this HCPCS code when the patient’s ACE score is 4 or greater (high risk).	\$29.00 (minimum payment)
G9920	Screening performed – results negative (Note: Providers must bill this HCPCS code when the patient’s ACE score is 3 or lower (lower risk).	\$29.00 (minimum payment)

To be eligible for directed payment, the network provider must meet these three requirements:

1. Use either the PEARLS tool or qualifying ACE questionnaire, as appropriate, available on the ACEs Aware website;
2. Bill using one of the HCPCS codes in the table above;
3. And be on DHCS's list of providers that have completed a certified core ACEs Aware training.

To learn more about how to properly file a claim, responsible payer, or more, please review our Provider Manual: <https://www.hpsm.org/provider/resources/manual/claims>

Providers may file provider payment disputes (PDRs) for payment through our standard PDR process. Learn more about provider disputes here: <https://www.hpsm.org/provider/claims/disputes-and-appeals>

Learn more about additional payments through Prop 56 here:  
<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/provgovpart/Prop-56/Pages/default.aspx>

For questions, contact the HPSM Provider Services department at [PSInquiries@hpsm.org](mailto:PSInquiries@hpsm.org).

Thank you for your continued commitment to our community,  
The Health Plan of San Mateo