

Psychological Testing

Crosswalk for 2019 Psychological Testing and Evaluation CPT® Codes

CPT® Codes and Descriptors Effective January 1, 2019

Professional and Technical Activities Performed by the Psychologist

Please note that the new codes do **not** cross-walk on a one-to-one basis with the deleted codes. The single code, 96101, will now be billed using up to four (4) codes; two (2) codes for Psychological Evaluation Services (96130, 96131) and two (2) for Test Administration and Scoring (96136, 96137).

- Evaluation services include interpretation of test results and clinical data, integration of patient data, clinical decision making, treatment planning, report generation, and interactive feedback to the patient, family member(s) or caregiver(s).
 - The **first hour** of psychological evaluation is billed using 96130 and **each additional hour** needed to complete the service is billed with the add-on code 96131.
 - CPT Time Rules allow an additional unit of a time-based code to be reported as long as the mid-point of the stated amount of time is passed. Beyond the first hour (96130), at least an additional 31 minutes of work must be performed to bill the first unit of the add-on code 96131.
- Evaluation services must always be performed by the professional prior to test administration, and may be billed on the same or different days.
- Test administration and scoring services **performed by the psychologist** includes time spent to administer and score a minimum of two (2) psychological tests.
 - The first **30 minutes** of test administration and scoring is billed using 96136 and **each additional 30-minute** increment needed to complete the service is billed with code 96137.
 - CPT time rules apply to the add-on code if, beyond the first 30 minutes, at least an additional 16 minutes of work is performed.

PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING BY PSYCHOLOGIST OR PHYSICIAN		PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING EVALUATION SERVICES BY PROFESSIONAL	
2018 CPT® Code	2018 CPT® Descriptor	2019 CPT® Code	2019 CPT® Descriptor
96101	Psychological testing (includes psychodiagnostic assessment of emotionality, intellectual abilities, personality and psychopathology, e.g., MMPI, Rorschach, WAIS), per hour of the psychologist's or physician's time, both face-to-face time administering tests to the patient and time interpreting these test results and preparing the report	96130*	Psychological testing evaluation services by physician or other qualified health care professional, including integration of patient data, interpretation of standardized test results and clinical data, clinical decision making, treatment planning and report and interactive feedback to the patient, family member(s) or caregiver(s), when performed; first hour
		96131*	Each additional hour (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)
		TEST ADMINISTRATION AND SCORING BY PROFESSIONAL	
		96136**	Psychological or neuropsychological test administration and scoring by physician or other qualified health care professional, two or more tests, any method, first 30 minutes
		96137**	Each additional 30 minutes (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)

* Professional services, such as test selection, clinical decision-making and test interpretation, previously billed with 96101, should now be billed using psychological evaluation codes (96130 and 96131).

**Time spent scoring tests is now considered to be billable time.

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Professional Services Performed by the Psychologist and Technical Services Performed by Technician

Please note that the new codes do **not** cross-walk on a one-to-one basis with the deleted codes. The single code, 96102, will now be billed using four (4) codes; two (2) codes for Psychological Evaluation Services (96130, 96131) and two (2) for Test Administration and Scoring by Technician (96138, 96139).

- Psychological Evaluation services include interpretation of test results and clinical data, integration of patient data, clinical decision making, treatment planning, report generation, and interactive feedback to the patient, family member(s) or caregiver(s).
 - The first **hour** of evaluation is billed using 96130 and **each additional hour** needed to complete the service is billed with code add-on 96131.
 - CPT Time Rules allow an additional unit of a time-based code to be reported as long as the mid-point of the stated amount of time is passed. Beyond the first hour (96130), at least an additional 31 minutes of work must be performed to bill the first unit of the add-on code 96131.
- Evaluation services must always be performed by the professional prior to test administration, and may be billed on the same or different days.
- Test administration and scoring services **performed by the Technician** includes time spent to administer and score a minimum of two (2) psychological tests.
 - The first **30 minutes** of test administration and scoring is billed using 96138 and **each additional 30-minute** increment needed to complete the service is billed with code 96139.
 - CPT time rules apply to the add-on code if, beyond the first 30 minutes, at least an additional 16 minutes of work is performed.

TECHNICIAN ADMINISTERED PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING		PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING EVALUATION SERVICES BY PROFESSIONAL	
2018 CPT® Code	2018 CPT® Descriptor	2019 CPT® Code	2019 CPT® Descriptor
96102	Psychological testing (includes psychodiagnostic assessment of emotionality, intellectual abilities, personality and psychopathology, e.g., MMPI and WAIS), with qualified health care professional interpretation and report, administered by technician, per hour of technician time, face-to-face	96130*	Psychological testing evaluation services by physician or other qualified health care professional, including integration of patient data, interpretation of standardized test results and clinical data, clinical decision making, treatment planning and report and interactive feedback to the patient, family member(s) or caregiver(s), when performed; first hour
		96131*	Each additional hour (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)
		TEST ADMINISTRATION AND SCORING BY TECHNICIAN	
		96138**	Psychological or neuropsychological test administration and scoring by technician, two or more tests, any method; first 30 minutes
		96139**	Each additional 30 minutes (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)

* Professional services, such as test selection, clinical decision-making and test interpretation, previously billed with 96102, should now be billed using Psychological Evaluation codes (96130 & 96131).

**Time spent scoring tests is now considered to be billable time.

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Psychiatric diagnostic evaluation

Please note that no changes have been made to CPT® code 90791.

- This service includes a comprehensive diagnostic evaluation of psychological and psychosocial conditions and is performed prior to psychological evaluation and test administration and scoring services.

PSYCHIATRIC DIAGNOSTIC EVALUATION			
2018 CPT® Code	2018 CPT® Descriptor	2019 CPT® Code	2019 CPT® Descriptor
90791	Psychiatric diagnostic evaluation	90791	Psychiatric diagnostic evaluation *No Change for 2019