



Free Mental Health Consultations You Can Code For

All primary care providers of children and adolescents in Texas get free mental health care support when you call the Texas Child Psychiatric Access Network (CPAN), and all consultations are billable. Just calling CPAN will upgrade your coding from the external consultation, and you can appropriately bill for your time taking care of your patients.

Call CPAN today: 888-901-CPAN (2726)

Time-Based Coding

- » You can adjust your total patient visit time to include the discussion with the child psychiatrist.
- » The consult can occur outside the visit, but you must do it on the same day.
- » In an EMR, just leave the encounter open and sign/close after input from the CPAN consultant.

Example text for your charting:

"I spent X minutes discussing the case with Dr. X at Health Institution for behavioral health management guidance."

Complexity-Based Coding

Three areas determine a proper CPT code:

1. Problem complexity
2. Data
3. Treatment risk

The CPT code is based on the highest level that two of the three areas meet.

- » Consulting with a CPAN psychiatrist can modify each of these based on the case.
- » With those modifications, you may move the overall code from a 2-3 to a 4-5.
 - For instance, a CPAN consult alone might make the encounter eligible for a higher E/M code because discussion of management with another professional qualifies Data as moderate.

Example text for your charting:

"Case discussion with Dr. X at Health Institution for behavioral health management guidance, who recommended the following:...."

For more information on coding medical decision-making with CPAN, visit
utexas.box.com/v/cpancodebilling