

Getting Reimbursed: Ask the Testing Code Experts

APA PRACTICE
ORGANIZATION

Promoting and supporting practicing psychologists

Presented December 19, 2018 by

- Antonio E. Puente, PhD
- Neil H. Pliskin, PhD
- Diane Pedulla, JD

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Objectives

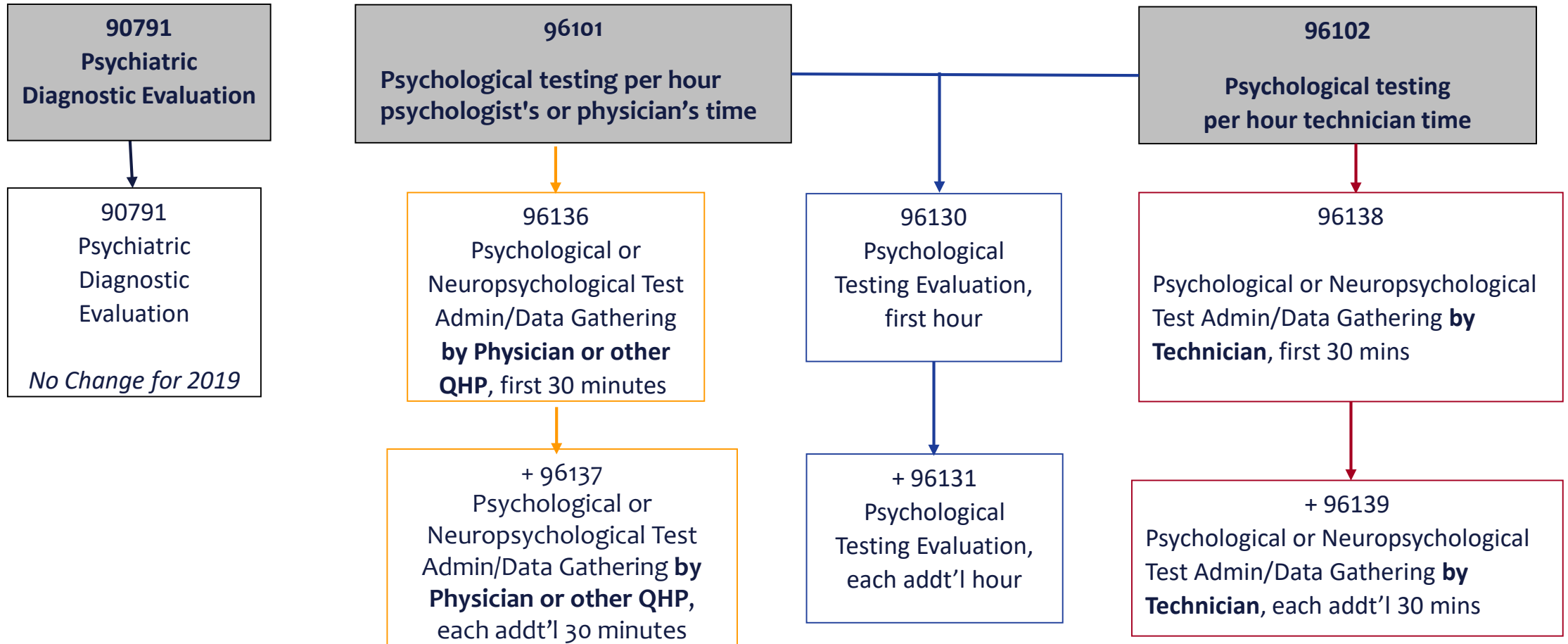
- Briefly review the new testing codes and definitions
- Address “frequently asked questions”
- Respond directly to questions submitted prior to and during the webinar

New Testing Code Family

Thirteen new CPT codes that describe developmental/behavioral screening and testing services and psychological & neuropsychological testing services.

Psychological/Neuropsychological Testing	
<i>Neurobehavioral Status Exam</i>	
96116	<i>Neurobehavioral status exam (clinical assessment of thinking, reasoning and judgement, eg, acquired knowledge, attention, language, memory, planning and problem solving, and visual spatial abilities), by physician or other qualified health care professional, both face-to-face time with the patient and time interpreting test results and preparing the report; first hour</i>
+96121	<i>each additional hour (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)</i>
<i>Test Evaluation Services</i>	
96130	<i>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</i>
+96131	<i>each additional hour (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)</i>
96132	<i>Neuropsychological 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</i>
+96133	<i>each additional hour (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)</i>
<i>Test Administration and Scoring</i>	
96136	<i>Psychological or neuropsychological test administration and scoring by physician or other qualified health care professional; two or more tests, any method, first 30 minutes</i>
+96137	<i>each additional 30 minutes (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)</i>
96138	<i>Psychological or neuropsychological test administration and scoring by technician, two or more tests, any method; first 30 minutes</i>
+96139	<i>each additional 30 minutes (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)</i>

Existing vs. 2019 Psychological Testing Codes



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Psychiatric Diagnostic Evaluation

90791

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.

Psychological Testing Evaluation Services

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 (<i>List separately in addition to code for primary procedure</i>)

Test Administration & Scoring

By Qualified Healthcare 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*)

Psychological Testing and Scoring & Evaluation
BY
PROFESSIONAL
Crosswalk

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)

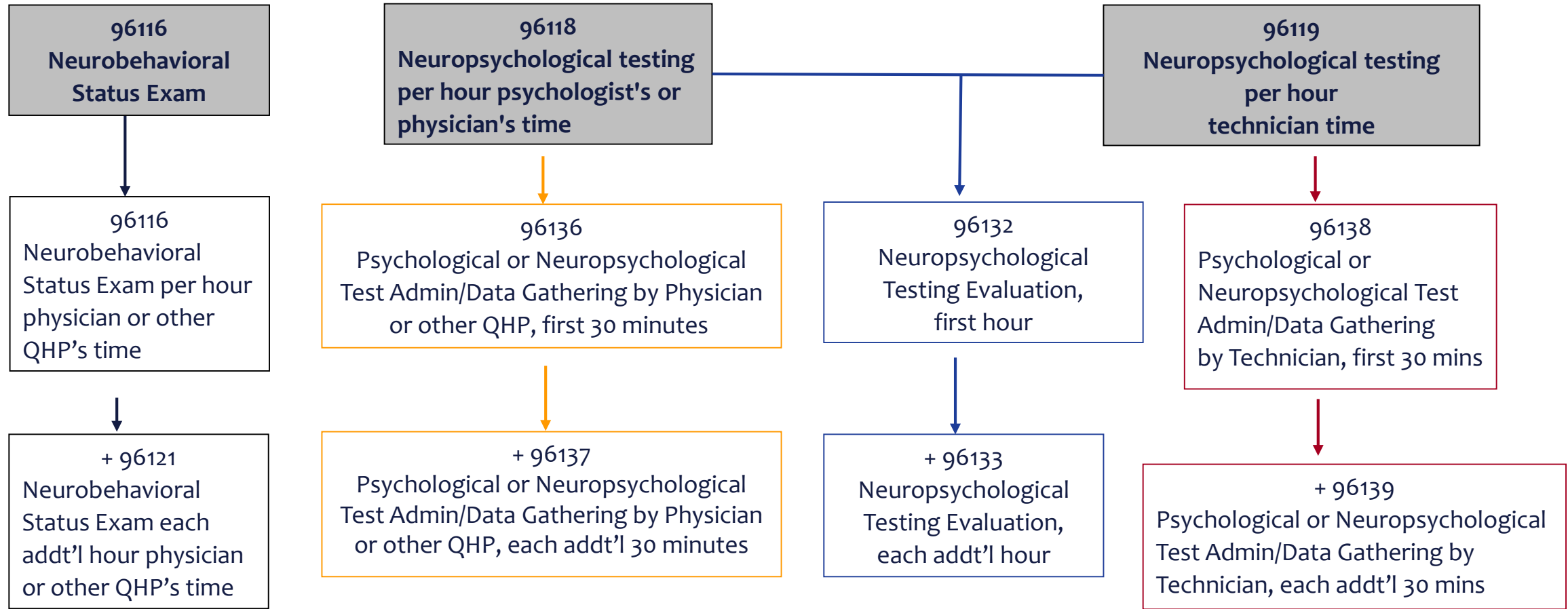
Psychological Testing and Scoring By Technician

96138	Psychological or neuropsychological test administration and scoring by technician, two or more tests, any method; first 30 minutes
+96139	each additional 30 minutes (<i>List separately in addition to code for primary procedure</i>)

Psychological Testing and Scoring By Technician & Evaluation By Professional Crosswalk

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 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)

Existing vs. 2019 Neuropsychological Testing Codes



Neurobehavioral Status Exam

96116	Neurobehavioral status exam (clinical assessment of thinking, reasoning and judgement, e.g., acquired knowledge, attention, language, memory, planning and problem solving, and visual spatial abilities), by physician or other qualified health care professional, both face-to-face time with the patient and time interpreting test results and preparing the report; first hour
+96121	each additional hour (<i>List separately in addition to code for primary procedure</i>)



Neurobehavioral Status Exam Crosswalk

Neurobehavioral Status Exam			
2018 CPT® Code	2018 CPT® Descriptor	2019 CPT® Code	2019 CPT® Descriptor
96116	Neurobehavioral status exam (clinical assessment of thinking, reasoning and judgment, e.g., acquired knowledge, attention, language, memory, planning and problem solving, and visual spatial abilities), per hour of the psychologist's or physician's time, both face-to-face time with the patient and time interpreting test results and preparing the report	96116	Neurobehavioral status exam (clinical assessment of thinking, reasoning and judgement, e.g., acquired knowledge, attention, language, memory, planning and problem solving, and visual spatial abilities), by physician or other qualified health care professional, both face-to-face time with the patient and time interpreting test results and preparing the report; first hour
		96121	each additional hour (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)

Neuropsychological Testing Evaluation Services

96132	Neuropsychological 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
+96133	each additional hour (<i>List separately in addition to code for primary procedure</i>)

Test Administration & Scoring

By Qualified Healthcare 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 (<i>List separately in addition to code for primary procedure</i>)

Neuropsychological Testing and Scoring & Evaluation Services by Professional Crosswalk

Neuropsychological Testing By Psychologist or Physician		Neuropsychological Testing Evaluation Services By Professional	
2018 CPT® Code	2018 CPT® Descriptor	2019 CPT® Code	2019 CPT® Descriptor
96118	Neuropsychological testing (eg, Halstead-Reitan Neuropsychological Battery, Wechsler Memory Scales and Wisconsin Card Sorting Test), 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	96132*	Neuropsychological 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
		96133*	each additional hour (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)
		<u>Test Administration and Scoring By Professional</u>	
		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)

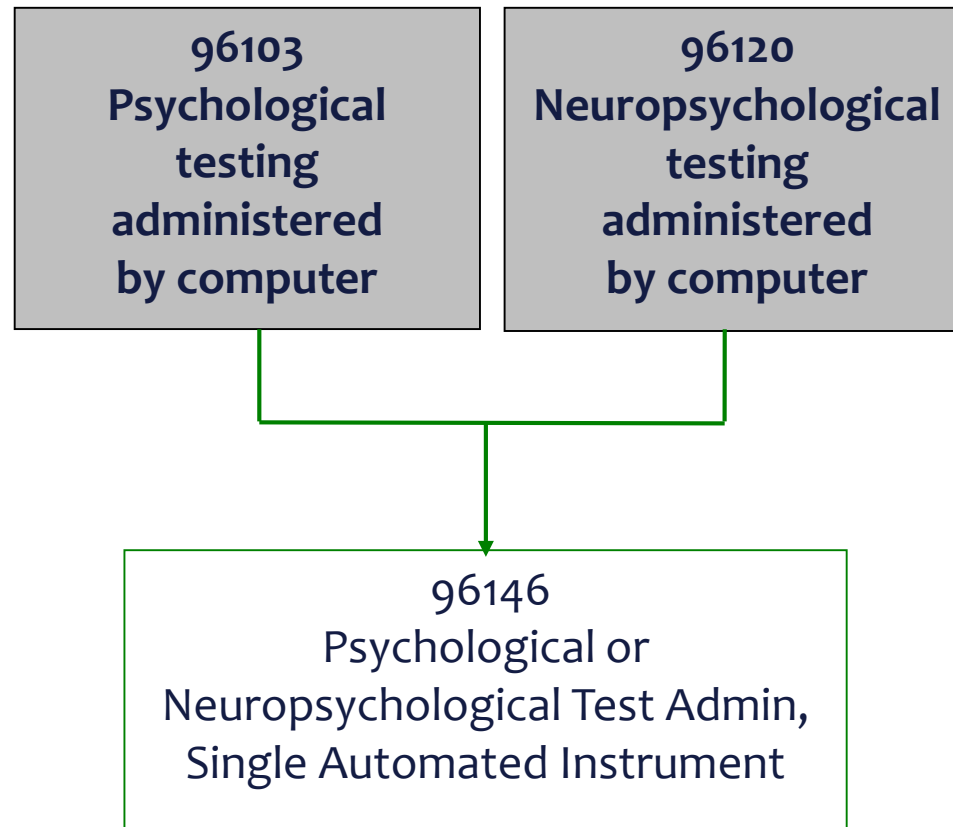
Neuropsychological Testing & Scoring By Technician

96138	Psychological or neuropsychological test administration and scoring by technician, two or more tests, any method; first 30 minutes
+96139	each additional 30 minutes (<i>List separately in addition to code for primary procedure</i>)

Neuropsychological Testing and Scoring by Technician & Evaluation Services by Professional Crosswalk

Technician Administered Neuropsychological Testing		Neuropsychological Testing Evaluation Services By Professional	
2018 CPT® Code	2018 CPT® Descriptor	2019 CPT® Code	2019 CPT® Descriptor
96119	Neuropsychological testing (e.g., Halstead-Reitan Neuropsychological Battery, Wechsler Memory Scales and Wisconsin Card Sorting Test), with qualified health care professional interpretation and report, administered by technician, per hour of technician time, face-to-face	96132*	Neuropsychological 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
		96133*	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)

Existing vs. 2019 Automated Test via Electronic Platform



Automated Testing and Result

96146

Psychological or neuropsychological test administration, with single automated instrument via electronic platform, with automated result only

Crosswalk for 2019 Computerized Test CPT® Codes

Psychological & Neuropsychological Testing By Computer		Single Psychological or Neuropsychological Automated Test with Automated Result	
2018 CPT® Code	2018 CPT® Descriptor	2019 CPT® Code	2019 CPT® Descriptor
96103	Psychological testing (includes psychodiagnostic assessment of emotionality, intellectual abilities, personality and psychopathology, e.g., MMPI), administered by a computer, with qualified health care professional interpretation and report	96146	Psychological or neuropsychological test administration, with single automated instrument via electronic platform, with automated result only
96120	Neuropsychological testing (e.g., Wisconsin Card Sorting Test), administered by a computer, with qualified health care professional interpretation and report		

Frequently Asked Questions



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- **Q. How are students or postdoctoral trainees who provide test administration and/or scoring services while supervised by licensed psychologists treated in the new coding structure?**
- **A.** Specific guidance for assessment provided by unlicensed trainees under the supervision of licensed psychologists and neuropsychologists is not addressed by the new coding structure. This is something that is decided by Medicare, Medicaid and other third-party payers.
- The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has specifically stated that under the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule there is no payment for services performed by students or trainees. Accordingly, Medicare does not pay for services represented by CPT codes 96102 and 96119 (the current technician codes) when performed by a student or a trainee. This position will not change with implementation of the new testing codes.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- **Q.** How do I bill for reimbursement if I provide only one test like the WAIS or the MMPI that involves not only administration and scoring but also test evaluation services including interpretation, integration of information, write-up, and feedback?
- **A.** Under the new coding structure, in order to bill for Test Administration and Scoring (96136-96139), at least 2 tests must be administered. CPT codes 96136-96139 cannot be reported for the administration of only one test.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- **Q. And what if the one test is automated? Could I still use the testing evaluation services code?**
- **A.** No. To bill for evaluation, the provider would need to interpret the test results and then write a separate report. 96146 provides an automated result/report, so there is no need for further interpretation.

Additional Questions from the Audience



One Way to Document Clinical Decision Making

Professional Psychological/Neuropsychological Testing Evaluation Services	Start Time	Stop Time	Total Units
Intra-Session Clinical Decision Making-			
referral review/test selection:			
tech consult/test review/modification:			
tech consult/test review/modification:			
patient limitation management:			
patient behavior management:			
patient symptom monitoring:			
Face-to-Face Interpretive Feedback:			
Record Review/Integration/Report Generation:			

Clinical Example:

MDD+ Psychosis Evaluation with Combined QHP and Technician-Administered Assessment: *Diagnostic Interview+ 2 hours of technician testing + 2 hours of psychologist administered testing + 2 hours of professional evaluation services*

	Code	RVU
■ Diagnostic Interview	90791 (1 unit@ 3.89)	3.89
▪ Test Administration/Data Gathering <u>Psychologist</u>		
▪ First 30 minutes	96136 (Base Code; 1 unit@ 1.33)	1.33
▪ Each additional 30 minutes	96137 (Add-on; 3 units@ 1.23)	3.69
▪ Testing Administration/Data Gathering By <u>Technician</u>		
▪ First 30 minutes	96138 (Base Code; 1 unit@1.08)	1.08
▪ Each additional 30 minutes	96139 (Add-on; 3 units@1.08)	3.24
▪ Testing Evaluation Services By QHP		
▪ Hour 1	96130 (Base Code ; 1 unit@ 3.30)	3.30
▪ Hour 2	96131 (Add-on ; 1 unit@2.51)	2.51
Total RVUs		19.04

For more information on CPT codes

- **APA Practice Organization:** www.apapracticecentral.org

Click on Reimbursement in the top menu.

- **Psychology Coding - CPT and Psychological Service Billing:**
<http://psychologycoding.org/>

Recent articles on this topic

- Up-to-Code article providing guidance on how to use the new codes: <https://www.apapracticecentral.org/reimbursement/testing-codes/changes>
- Up-to-Code: New info on billing for psychological & neuropsychological assessment: <https://www.apapracticecentral.org/reimbursement/testing-codes/billing-psychological-assessment.aspx>
- Reimbursing for services- <http://www.apapracticecentral.org/update/2018/04-19/cms-rulemaking-process.aspx>
- Up to code: Your money matters- <http://www.apapracticecentral.org/update/2018/02-08/money-matters.aspx>
- Up to code: What's a RUC survey?- <http://www.apapracticecentral.org/update/2017/05-04/ruc-survey.aspx>

Billing or other problems with private or government insurance?

The APA Practice Organization assists members with health insurance and managed care issues involving private and government insurers. The latter includes Medicare, Medicaid and TRICARE. Issues include billing, contracting, restrictions on care, and parity & HIPAA compliance. Approaches range from collaborative resolutions with enlightened companies and agencies -- to complaints to regulators, lobbying federal and state legislatures, and lawsuits.

For issues with private insurers, contact the APA Practice Organization at PracticeLegalandRegulatory@apa.org.

For issues with government insurers, contact the APA Practice Organization at PracticeGovRelations@apa.org.

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- Not a member? Now is a great time to become one! Visit <https://join.apa.org/> to join.

Thank you for attending today's webinar.

A link to today's recorded webinar will be emailed to all registrants within 48 hours. In addition, the slides and the recording will be available on the APA Practice Organization website in a few weeks. (www.apapracticecentral.org)

We'd like your feedback on this webinar; with each recording email, there is a link to a survey. We would appreciate it if you would take the time to fill it out.

Have a great day!