

# Obesity Counseling CPT – G0447 (*Intensive Behavioral Therapy (IBT) for Obesity*)

### HCPCS & CPT Codes

**G0447** - Face-to-face behavioral counseling for obesity, 15 minutes  
**G0473** - Face-to-face behavioral counseling for obesity, **group** (2-10), 30 minutes

### ICD-10 Codes

Z68.30, Z68.31, Z68.32, Z68.33, Z68.34, Z68.35, Z68.36, Z68.37, Z68.38, Z68.39, Z68.41, Z68.42, Z68.43, Z68.44, Z68.45

### Medicare Covers

A screening for obesity in patients with Medicare Part B who:

- Have a body mass index (BMI) ≥ 30 kilograms (kg) per meter squared
- Are competent and alert during counseling
- Get counseling from a qualified primary care physician or other primary care practitioner in a primary care setting

### Frequency

We pay for up to 22 visits billed with codes G0447 and G0473, combined, in a 12-month period:

- First month:** 1 face-to-face visit every week
- Months 2–6:** 1 face-to-face visit every other week
- Months 7–12:** 1 face-to-face visit every month if patient meets certain requirements (if patient loses at least 3 kg (6.6 lbs.) during first 6 months)

### National Coverage Determination 210.12

For the purposes of this decision memorandum, a primary care setting is defined as one in which there is provision of integrated, accessible health care services by clinicians who are accountable for addressing a large majority of personal health care needs, developing a sustained partnership with patients, and practicing in the context of family and community. Emergency departments, inpatient hospital settings, ambulatory surgical centers, independent diagnostic testing facilities, skilled nursing facilities, inpatient rehabilitation facilities and hospices are not considered primary care settings under this definition.

For the purposes of this decision memorandum a "primary care physician" and "primary care practitioner" will be defined consistent with existing sections of the Social Security Act (§1833(u)(6), §1833(x)(2)(A)(i)(I) and §1833(x)(2)(A)(i)(II)).

§1833(u)  
(6) Physician Defined.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term "physician" means a physician described in section 1861(r)(1) and the term "primary care physician" means a physician who is identified in the available data as a general practitioner, family practice practitioner, general internist, or obstetrician or gynecologist.

§1833(x)(2)(A)  
Primary care practitioner—The term "primary care practitioner" means an individual—  
(i) who—  
(I) is a physician (as described in section 1861(r)(1)) who has a primary specialty designation of family medicine, internal medicine, geriatric medicine, or pediatric medicine; or  
(II) is a nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, or physician assistant (as those terms are defined in section 1861(aa)(5))



**Primary Care Providers Only**