



REIMBURSEMENT POLICY	
Policy Name:	Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) Reimbursement
Policy Number:	PI-011
Original Effective Date:	January 1, 2022
Annual Approval Date:	
Products:	Pennsylvania HealthChoices Medical Assistance All Medicare Products

Disclaimer

Highmark Wholecare’s medical claims payment and prior-authorization policy is a reference resource regarding payment and coverage for the services described. This policy does not constitute medical advice and is not intended to govern and/or otherwise influence medical necessity decisions.

Policy Scope

Highmark Wholecare provides coverage for medically necessary Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) treatment in a physical healthcare setting. Providers are asked to perform this evaluation in order to determine if a potential Substance Use Disorder exists and then as appropriate referral to treatment.

Highmark Wholecare is paying the Screening for Alcohol and/or Drug Screening in addition to the office visit as outlined in this policy.

Procedure Codes

The screening for SBIRT shall be billed using procedural code **H0049** for a reimbursement of **\$3.00** per screening up to twice per year.

This would be paid in addition to the office visit and will be reimbursed. If another SBIRT code is used, it will not be reimbursed.





Policy History

Date	Activity
01/01/2022	Initial effective date
	Policy Sources updated

Health benefits or health benefit administration may be provided by or through Highmark Wholecare, coverage by Gateway Health Plan, an independent licensee of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association (“Highmark Wholecare”).