



# SBIRT Provider Toolkit

**Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT)**

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### Purpose of this Toolkit

This toolkit is designed to assist Aetna Better Health of Florida providers in integrating SBIRT into their clinical workflow.

It provides guidance on best practices, coding and billing, workflows, clinical scripts, and resources to support early intervention and treatment for substance use.

### SBIRT Overview

SBIRT is a comprehensive, evidence-based approach for early identification and intervention with patients at risk for substance use disorders (SUDs), including alcohol, illicit drugs, and misuse of prescription drugs.

#### SBIRT Components:

- Screening: Quickly assess the severity of substance use and identify the appropriate level of treatment.
- Brief Intervention: Engage the patient in short conversation, increasing insight and awareness regarding substance use and motivation toward behavioral change.
- Referral to Treatment: Provide a referral to specialty care for those with more serious SUDs.

### Workflow Integration

- Identify Population: Screen all adults and pregnant individuals during routine visits (e.g., annual check-ups, prenatal appointments).
- Use Validated Tools:
  - TAPS (Tobacco, Alcohol, Prescription medications, and other Substances)
  - ASSIST (Alcohol, Smoking, and Substance Involvement Screening Test)
  - CRAFFT (for members under 21)
  - 5Ps (for pregnant individuals – screens for substances, depression, violence, and tobacco)
- Document Results in the patient’s health records
- Provide Brief Intervention if screen is positive
- Referral to Behavioral Health if moderate to severe risk is identified.
- Track Follow-up and reinforce engagement in treatment

#### Provider Scripts

- Screening Introduction:  
*"As part of our standard care, we ask all patients a few questions about alcohol and drug use to better support their health."*
- Brief Intervention:  
*"Based on your answers, it looks like your alcohol/drug use may be putting you at risk. I'd like to talk more about this and how we can support your goals."*
- Referral to Treatment:  
*"There are effective treatments that can help. With your permission, I'd like to refer you to a specialist who can work with you more closely."*

Best Practices for Implementation	Cultural Competence & Stigma Reduction
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Integrate screening into vital signs or intake forms</li><li>• Train clinical staff to conduct initial screens</li><li>• Schedule follow-ups for positive screens</li><li>• Co-locate or collaborate with behavioral health services</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Avoid judgmental language</li><li>• Acknowledge barriers to treatment</li><li>• Practice trauma-informed care</li></ul>

# SBIRT CPT/HCPCS Billing & Coding Reference Chart

Code	Code Type	Description	Typical Use Case
99408	CPT	Alcohol and/or substance abuse structured screening and brief intervention, 15–30 minutes	Time-based intervention involving motivational interviewing and education. May follow a positive screening.
99409	CPT	Alcohol and/or substance abuse structured screening and brief intervention, greater than 30 minutes	Extended intervention for patients needing more in-depth discussion and behavioral counseling.
H0049	HCPCS	Alcohol and/or drug screening	Brief screening with a validated tool conducted in primary or behavioral health settings.
H0050	HCPCS	Alcohol and/or drug services, brief intervention per 15 minutes	Used in settings such as outpatient counseling or integrated behavioral health care.
G0396	HCPCS	Alcohol and/or substance abuse structured assessment and brief intervention, 15–30 minutes	Similar to 99408 but billed in federally funded or Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) environments.
G0397	HCPCS	Alcohol and/or substance abuse structured assessment and brief intervention, greater than 30 minutes	Similar to 99409 but billed in federally funded or FQHC environments.

**Note:** Documentation must support time spent and include risk assessment, intervention details, and referrals made. Providers authorized to bill for SBIRT: Physicians (MD/DO), Physician Assistants (PAs), and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs).

Data & Reporting Guidance	Quick Start Checklist
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure CPT/HCPCS codes are captured in claims</li> <li>Track SBIRT screenings and brief interventions in EHR/EMR for reporting</li> <li>Coordinate with ABHFL performance teams for quality metrics</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Identify clinical staff to administer SBIRT</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Select validated screening tools</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Add codes to EHR/EMR templates</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Train staff on brief intervention scripts</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Create referral pathways</li> </ul>

## Key Contacts

For more resources or questions about integrating SBIRT into your workflow, contact your Aetna Better Health of Florida SBIRT/ MAT Liaison.

Department	Contact Information
Provider Relations	<b>1-800-441-5501 (TTY/TTD: 711)</b> <b>FLProviderEngagement@aetna.com</b> <a href="https://aetnabetterhealth.com/florida/provider">aetnabetterhealth.com/florida/provider</a>
SBIRT/MAT Liaison	<b>Yentl Lega</b> <b>954-858-3201</b> <b>LegaY@aetna.com</b>
Florida BH IMPACT Project	<b>1-833-951-0296</b> <b>FLBHImpact.org</b>

# Referral Resources for Aetna Better Health of Florida Medicaid Members



## **Aetna Care Management and Case Coordination: Whole-Person Support**

Support members with medical, behavioral health, and social needs through personalized care planning and coordination.

Phone: 1-800-441-5501

Website: <https://www.aetnabetterhealth.com/florida/care-management.html>

Referral: Members may self-enroll via calling Member Services and asking to speak with a care manager. Providers may also notify Aetna to request outreach.



## **Progeny Health - Maternity Case Management**

Comprehensive case management and support for high-risk pregnant and postpartum members.

Phone: 1-855-231-4730

Website: [www.progenyhealth.com](http://www.progenyhealth.com)

Referral: Members may self-enroll via the Progeny Health Maternity mobile app or by calling the phone number above. You may also download and print the maternity flyer [English \(PDF\)](#) | [Spanish \(PDF\)](#) for them.



## **Brave Health - Virtual BH & SUD Services**

Telehealth access to licensed therapists, psychiatric providers, and care coordinators for BH & SUD support.

Phone: 305-902-6347

Website: [www.bebavehealth.com/referral](http://www.bebavehealth.com/referral)

Referral: Referrals accepted via phone or website. Services available in English and Spanish.



## **Groups Recover Together - Virtual & In-Person MAT Support**

Medication-assisted treatment (MAT) for opioid use disorder via group therapy and telemedicine. Select in-person options in Florida.

Phone: 1-888-245-2318

Website: [www.joiningroups.com](http://www.joiningroups.com)

Referral: Providers or members may self-refer by phone. Services include Suboxone management and counseling.



## **Aetna Peer Support Specialists**

Certified individuals with lived experience offering recovery support, linkage to care, and engagement for members with SUD concerns and/or BH complexities.

Phone: 1-800-441-5501

Referral: Members may self-enroll via calling Member Services and asking to speak with a Peer Support Specialist. Providers may also notify Aetna to request outreach.



## **Pyx Health: Member Support Resource**

Providers can refer members to Pyx Health for extra support beyond clinical care. Pyx Health offers members access to a care helper who can assist with care planning, explain and navigate health plan benefits, connect to local community resources, and provide someone to talk to when extra support is needed.

Provider Helpline: 833-747-1613 Member Helpline: 855-499-4777

Website: [members.pyxhealth.com](http://members.pyxhealth.com)

Referral: Encourage members to download the Pyx Health app, visit the website, or call the member helpline to connect to a care planner right away. To refer, request outreach to a member for support, follow up with Pyx team regarding a member or questions about the Pyx Health service call the provider helpline.

## References

- Agency for Health Care Administration. (n.d.). Guide to utilizing the Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) model for Medicaid practitioners. Florida Medicaid. <https://ahca.myflorida.com/medicaid/guide-to-utilizing-the-screening-brief-intervention-and-referral-to-treatment-model-for-medicaid-practitioners>
- National Institute on Drug Abuse. (n.d.). Validated SBIRT tools recommended. National Institutes of Health. Retrieved from <https://nida.nih.gov/nidamed-medical-health-professionals/screening-tools-resources/chart-screening-tools>
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. (2022). Billing for Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT). Retrieved from <https://www.samhsa.gov/sbirt/coding-reimbursement>
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. (2024, November). Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Retrieved July 29, 2025, from <https://www.samhsa.gov/substance-use/treatment/sbirt>