

TRUE TALK: POWER OF PREVENTION

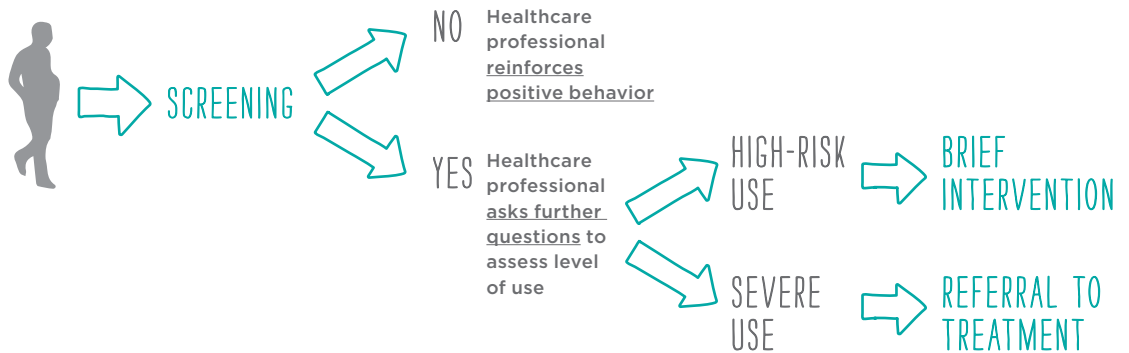
POWER OF PREVENTION

A NEW OPPORTUNITY FOR PROVIDERS TO ADDRESS USE YOUTH SUBSTANCE USE

The misuse of and addiction to alcohol and drugs blunt the potential of too many young Georgians. Ninety percent of Americans who meet the medical criteria for addiction started smoking, drinking, or using other drugs before they were 18, and drugs and alcohol are big contributors to all three leading causes of teen death.

AN EVIDENCE-BASED TOOL FOR PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION

SBIRT stands for Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral of Treatment. SBIRT is an evidence-based tool used to identify individuals who use alcohol and other drugs at harmful levels and guide follow-up counseling and treatment. It is an effective prevention and treatment approach endorsed by the American Academy of Pediatrics and the National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.



A THREE-STEP PROCESS

SCREENING IS IMPORTANT.

Identifying young people who use alcohol or drugs is a very important first step in preventing substance use disorders. Studies show that simply asking young people about drugs and alcohol can lead to positive behavior changes.

BRIEF INTERVENTIONS ARE EFFECTIVE.

There is a growing body of research supporting the use of brief interventions to address alcohol use among young people. Young people respond to these short counseling sessions by drinking less often and reducing the number of drinks consumed at one time. Brief interventions help college students cut back their drinking by an average of six drinks per week.

TREATMENT.

Sometimes young people have reached the stage where treatment is necessary. In these cases, providers refer adolescents to the appropriate community-based or residential treatment.

PROVIDERS CAN
NOW USE SBIRT
WITH MEDICAID
PATIENTS

Effective July 1, 2017, Georgia’s Medicaid program activated reimbursement codes for SBIRT, giving providers a new tool to utilize with their young patients. Medicaid and PeachCare for Kids cover half of Georgia’s children and youth, making these programs critical in the effort to address youth substance use disorders.

Although SBIRT is a tool that can be used by many types of licensed and lay health care providers, Georgia’s Medicaid codes are currently only activated for physicians, physician extenders, and advanced nurse practitioners.

The SBIRT procedure codes are open in GAMMIS in the following areas:

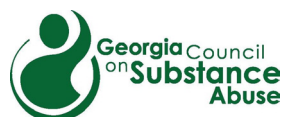
- 010** Inpatient Hospital
- 070** Outpatient Hospital
- 080** Swingbed
- 200** Home Health
- 430** Physician
- 431** Physician Assistant
- 740** Adv. Nurse Practitioners

How Must I Bill and Code SBIRT Services?

PROCEDURE CODE	DEFINITION	TIME	REIMBURSEMENT
99408	Alcohol and/or substance abuse structured and brief intervention services	15-30 minutes	\$33.41
99409	Alcohol and/or substance abuse structured screening and brief intervention services:	Greater than 30 minutes	\$65.51



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