



From the desk of Karen Walters, D.C.

ECLIPSE EHR Solutions · Weeki Wachee · Florida · 34614
352.488.0081 · www.INeedECLIPSE.com

This document will not pop-up on your screen again. If you want to keep it, please either save or print it!

January 4, 2020

Happy New Year!

For years, the E/M coding & documentation process has caused confusion and frustration for providers. That's one reason that both the AMA (which owns the copyright for CPT®) & CMS have planned major revisions to office and outpatient E/M codes 99201-99215 beginning right now — in January 2021.

You will now be able to code visits based solely on medical decision making (MDM), *or solely on total time*. History and exam components will no longer be necessary to support coding levels. Again, these changes only apply to outpatient E/M office visits (CPT codes 99202-99215). All other outpatient services, including consultations and emergency visits, will continue to use the same key elements for calculating visit levels. Use your documentation to justify the the level of service that is being billed. Though each CPT code description identifies a time range, don't document the time you spent with the patient as a **time range** (e.g. 15-30 minutes)! Instead, *document the actual time spent with the patient*.

New ECLIPSE Encounter updates (available for download) address these changes. Your README has links to educational materials that discuss the CPT time component in detail. Also, **Dr. Jeff Lewin of New Compass Coaching will be scheduling a webinar to discuss what these changes mean to your practice & how to incorporate them** within the next week or so — and we'll email you details as soon as they're available!

Last year, we expanded our support staff, implemented new phone technologies to improve your call experience, and released a wide variety of changes to improve our products & move in new directions. In January 2021, we are adding additional programming staff to help with the wide variety of new product implementations currently in our pipeline. We look forward to 2021!

We continue to operate remotely where possible for the ongoing safety of our employees. Our Florida location — which was updated in 2020 with UV technology that has been specifically tested against COVID — will re-open for free onsite training as soon as we consider it safe to do so.

Are you downloading updates regularly? HIPAA Security Assessments should be a continuous activity — and so should ECLIPSE updates. A wide variety of changes make their way into ECLIPSE on a continuing basis. And you should be downloading updates at least every two weeks.

Sincerely,

Karen Walters, D.C.

Karen Walters, D.C.