

**Ryan White Programs (Part A, B/County)**  
**SERVICE CATEGORY AND UNIT DEFINITIONS**  
**FY 2007-2008**

This document defines the service category definition and the units of service for each funded Ryan White Program (Part A, B) and/or county program, priority care service category in the Oakland Transitional Grant Area, Alameda County.

A unit of services refers to the amount of activity or service type provided to eligible clients. Most capture units in 15-minute increments, vouchers are reported by type and amount. Providers are required to record units of service, keep accurate records of activities/services on behalf of the clients and enter data into the HACS system on a regular basis. This information is reported to HRSA via the CADR (Care Act Data Report).

**1) Ambulatory/ Outpatient Medical Care**

The provision of professional diagnostic and therapeutic services rendered by a physician, physician's assistant, clinical nurse specialist or nurse practitioner in an outpatient setting. This includes diagnostic testing, early interventions and risk assessment, preventive care and screening, practitioner examination, medical history taking, diagnosis and treatment of common physical and mental conditions, prescribing and managing medication therapy, education and counseling on health issues, well-baby care, continuing care and management of chronic conditions, and referral to and provision of specialty care (includes all medical subspecialties). *Primary Medical Care* for the Treatment of HIV Infection includes the provision of care that is consistent with the Public Health Service's Treatment Guidelines. Such care must include access to antiretroviral and other drug therapies, including prophylaxis and treatment of opportunistic infections and combination antiretroviral therapies.

**Unit of service:**

**Provider Visits**

- 1 medical visit (initial, limited, moderate, extensive)  
(provided by a doctor, nurse practitioner, or physician's assistant)

**Laboratory and Diagnostic services**

- 1 laboratory diagnostic or screening test  
(to be invoiced once per client per contract year)

**Enhanced or Integrated Service Visits**

- 1 enhanced/integrated visit with health care provider (A or B)
- 1 enhanced/integrated visit (C)-case conference  
(A -nurse, B- social worker or other)

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**2) Case Management; medical, including treatment adherence**

A range of client-centered services that links clients with health care, psychosocial and other services. Ensures timely and coordinated access to medically appropriate levels of health and support services and continuity of care, through ongoing assessment of the client's and other key family member's needs and personal support systems.

Key activities include: (1) initial assessment of service needs, (2) development of a comprehensive, individualized service plan, (3) coordination of services required to implement the plan, (4) client monitoring to assess the efficacy of the plan, and (5) periodic re-evaluation and adaptation of the plan as necessary over the life of the client. May include treatment adherence and client-specific advocacy and/or review of utilization of services

**Unit of service:**

- 15 minutes of face-to face or other encounter (phone, referrals, case conference, group meetings, documentation etc.
- 1 psychosocial assessment
- 1 care plan developed

**(units of service are mutually exclusive)**

**3) Emergency Financial Assistance; food, utilities**

The provision of short-term payments to agencies, or establishment of voucher programs to assist with emergency expenses related to essential utilities, food (including groceries, food vouchers, and food stamps), and medication when other resources are not available.

**Unit of service:**

- 1 food voucher-\$20 increments
- 1 utility emergency fund payment

**4) Food**

The provision of actual food, meals, or nutritional supplements. It does not include finances to purchase food or meals. The provision of essential household supplies such as hygiene items and household-cleaning supplies should be included in this item.

**Unit of service:**

- 1 grocery bag
- 1 congregate meal
- 1 home delivered meal

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**5) Housing Services; housing assistance-short term; housing assistance- emergency**

This is limited to short term or emergency financial assistance to support temporary and/or transitional housing to enable the individual or family to gain and/or maintain medical care. Housing must be linked to medical and/or health care services or be certified as essential to a client's ability to gain or maintain access to HIV related medical care or treatment.

**Unit of service:**

Short-term housing

- 1 bed night

Emergency Assistance

- 1 emergency fund payment

**6) Home Health Care**

Home health care/Para professional: the provision of service by a homemaker, home health aide, personal caretakers, or attendant caretaker. This definition also includes non-medical, non-nursing assistance with cooking and cleaning activities to help disable clients remain in their home.

Home Health Professional Care – is the provision of service in the home by licensed health care workers, such as nurses.

Home Health: Specialized Care – is the provision of services that include intravenous and aerosolized treatment, diagnostic testing, parenteral feedings and other high tech therapies.

**Unit of service:**

- 1 paraprofessional care visit
- 1 professional care visit
- 1 specialized care visit

**7) Legal services**

Legal services directly necessitated by a person's HIV status including: preparation of Powers of Attorney, do not resuscitate orders, wills, trusts, bankruptcy proceedings and interventions necessary to ensure access to eligible

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benefits, including discrimination or breach of confidentiality litigation as it relates to services eligible for funding under the Ryan White Program. It does not include any legal services that arrange for guardianship or adoption of children after the death of their normal caregiver .See also Permanency Planning and Child Welfare Services.

**Unit of service:**

- 15 minutes of legal services

**8) Mental Health Services**

Psychological and psychiatric treatment and counseling services to individuals with a diagnosed mental illness, conducted in a group or individual setting, and provided by a mental health professional that is licensed or authorized within the State to render such services. This typically includes psychiatrists, psychologists, and licensed clinical social workers.

Key activities include: screening and intake, comprehensive mental health assessment, development and implementation of a treatment plan, treatment services and coordination of care, case closure/discharge.

**Unit of service:**

- 15 minutes-therapy/counseling session (group or individual)
- 1 mental health assessment (biopsychosocial)

**(units of service are mutually exclusive)**

**9) Oral Health (Dental)**

Diagnostic, preventative, and therapeutic services provided by general dental practitioners, dental specialist, dental hygienists and auxiliaries, and other trained primary care providers.

**Unit of service:**

- 1 routine dental visit
- 1 specialty dental visit
- 1 laboratory \$

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**10) Other Support Services- translation**

Direct support services not listed above, such as vision or interpretation services.

**Unit of service:**

- 15 minutes of translation services
- 1 translated document

**11) Psychosocial Support; alternative/complementary**

The provision of support and counseling activities, including alternative services (e.g., visualization, massage, art, music, and play), child abuse and neglect counseling, HIV support groups, pastoral care, recreational outings, caregiver support, and bereavement counseling. Includes other services not included in mental health, substance abuse or nutritional counseling that are provided to clients, family and household members, and/or other caregivers and focused on HIV-related problems.

**Unit of service:**

- 1 alternative/complementary visit

**12) Substance Abuse Services**

Outpatient - the provision of medical or other treatment and/or counseling to address substance abuse problems (i.e., alcohol and/or legal and illegal drugs) provided in an outpatient setting rendered by a physician or under the supervision of a physician, or by other qualified personnel.

Key activities include: screening, intake, comprehensive substance abuse assessment, development and implementation of a treatment plan, treatment coordination and care, reassessment, discharge/case closure

**Unit of service:**

- 15 minutes of counseling (group or individual)
- 1 methadone dose
- 1 addiction assessment tool completed

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**13) Transportation**

Include conveyance services provided, directly or through voucher, to a client so that he or she may access health care or support services.

**Unit of service:**

- 1 one-way van trip
- 1 voucher –(amount and kind)-disabled bus pass, 10-ride ticket, 1-ride ticket, transfer book, paratransit book, blue BART, red BART, taxi voucher, gas voucher)