



# PROVIDER ALERT



Alert #2 – 2008 – 1-23 – HCAL, HCYAB, HCCH, HCNE, HCCMP, HCNC

## CHANGE IN POMS SUBMISSION

As you know, Community Care has been working for some time to improve the timeliness and accuracy of the Performance Outcomes Measurement System (POMS) reporting by providers. There will be an **important change in the POMS submission requirements** to Community Care Behavioral Health Organization **beginning with the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2008** related to changes in POMS reporting requirements to OMHSAS. Community Care has received updated requirements from OMHSAS for reporting of POMS data for “new” members versus members in “continuing” care. Each quarter Community Care will continue to require POMS reporting on all “New Members” receiving any service within that quarter. New Members” are defined as a Member who is receiving services from you for the first time with the authorization/registration occurring within that quarter. However, for those Members who are already established in treatment, OMHSAS now requires POMS reporting on a semi-annual basis. An “Established Member” is one whose authorization/ registration was generated prior to that quarter and has been in continuous treatment with you without having been discharged.

Beginning with the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2008 POMS reporting, Community Care will only be requiring Providers to submit POMS data on “New Members” in care. Following the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2008 reporting period, it will alternate quarterly, with all members in care reported during the 2nd Quarter 2008, and then only on “New Members” during the 3rd Quarter 2008. This alternating cycle will continue throughout 2008 and until further notice. For providers who submit paper POMS forms, the forms for the appropriate members will be mailed to you, based on the alternating quarterly reporting cycle described above, i.e. new Members during the 1st and 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarters, then All (New and Established Members) during the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Quarters.

**For those providers submitting POMS electronically\*, you may continue to submit POMS on all Members currently in treatment with you or you may elect to follow the alternating quarterly POMS reporting process outlined above.** e.g. only new members in care submitted during the 1st Quarter 2008, then all members in care submitted during the 2nd Quarter 2008. For providers who submit POMS data electronically, we understand that it may be easier to continue to report on all members in care each quarter due to the technical challenges associated in differentiating “New Members” from those in continuous care in your data systems that generate the electronic POMS file for submission to Community Care. *\*If you are interested in submitting POMS information electronically, please contact your Provider Representative for more information about this process.*

If you have any questions about the changes to POMS reporting requirements, please contact your Provider Representative.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and dedication to gathering and reporting this important data on our HealthChoices Members.