



PROVIDER ALERT



Alert #7 05-29-2009 HCNC

PRESCRIBERS AND PROVIDERS OF CHILDREN'S BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES COORDINATION WITH CASSP REGARDING IPST/TREATMENT TEAM MEETINGS

Community Care, in partnership with 23 Pennsylvania counties to manage the North Central State Options Contract, is making a change in the requirements for delivery of Residential Treatment Services (RTF) and Therapeutic Foster Care (TFC). The 23 counties affected are as follows: Bradford, Cameron, Centre, Clarion, Clearfield, Columbia, Elk, Forest, Huntingdon, Jefferson, Juniata, McKean, Mifflin, Montour, Northumberland, Potter, Schuylkill, Snyder, Sullivan, Tioga, Union, Warren, and Wayne.

Together, we believe that a closer working relationship between the county(ies) and Community Care will improve the following: communication; the quality of care delivered to children and adolescents; coordination of care; resources in the local community, which will in turn keep youth within their natural environment; and minimize the risk for out-of-home placement.

In order to achieve these goals, we will jointly require the following:

- You must notify the CASSP coordinator in the child's county of residence (see attachment list of county CASSP coordinators) of any upcoming ISPST or treatment team meeting at least 48 hours prior to the meeting for both TFC and RTF. It is expected that the CASSP coordinator and the care manager will be invited to the ISPT/Treatment Team meeting 100% of the time.
- Prior to writing a prescription for an RTF level of care, we request that you contact the county CASSP coordinator and the Community Care care manager to schedule an ISPT/Treatment Team meeting to discuss options and consider whether enhanced services in the community and additional community and natural supports might meet the needs of the individual youth rather than RTF or TFC care.

We appreciate your cooperation in this important change. Together, we believe that this will indeed improve the quality of treatment process and enhance coordination of services.