



PROVIDER ALERT



Alert # 8 08-10-10 HCAL

CHANGE IN ASSESSMENT AND IDENTIFICATION OF SERVICE COORDINATION NEEDS FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

Community Care Behavioral Health Organization's authorization process for Service Coordination for **Children and Adolescents of Allegheny County** requires providers to request initial and continued stay authorization requests by facsimile. This procedure will not change. However, the process by which the consumer level of functioning is assessed will no longer be in accordance to the Environmental Matrix scale which evaluates the functional level of consumers on the activities identified as Intensive Case Management, Resource Coordination and Blended Case Management activities. Allegheny County (ONLY) has adopted the **Child & Adolescent Needs and Strengths Methodology (CANS)** for comprehensive assessment and identification of service coordination needs. The comprehensive algorithms will assist the provider in the identification of the level and intensity of services to be delivered.

The intent of this Provider Alert is to inform all Allegheny County Service Coordination providers that Mental Health Case Management Notification Request Form for adults, children and adolescents has been revised for **the Child and Adolescent population only**. The Environmental Matrix Score will be replaced with the CANS score. This revised form is titled the **CHILD & ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE COORDINATION NOTIFICATION FORM**. (A copy of the form is enclosed or you can access the form via the following link:

<http://www.ccbh.com/providers/phealthchoices/forms/index.php>)

All instructions from the previous form will remain the same with the exception of documenting the CANS score in place of the Matrix Score on the revised form. Please note: For Initial Service Coordination authorization requests, please use the CANS score from the short version of the CANS. For Continued Stay authorization requests please use the score from the complete CANS.

This new authorization form will be in effect on **September 1, 2010**.

Allegheny County Office of Behavioral Health will train Service Coordinators to implement the Child & Adolescent Needs and Strengths assessment tool.