



PROVIDER ALERT



Alert #1 03012011 HCAL

ENHANCED OUTPATIENT SERVICES CHANGE IN ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

Effective March 1, 2011, Community Care Behavioral Health Organization is modifying the administrative rules for billing for the Enhanced Outpatient Services on our current HealthChoices Allegheny County fee schedule. These changes are being made as part of an effort to lower inpatient mental health and substance abuse readmissions by promoting outpatient engagement of members prior to, and throughout the first month following hospital discharge.

The following services will be modified effective March 1, 2011:

- **90899-HE for Mental Health and 90899-HF for Substance Abuse**

The service, which is intended to engage the members while they are receiving inpatient services, is being modified to allow any clinician in an outpatient clinic to bill for this service regardless of whether they are the identified clinician to follow the member in outpatient services upon discharge. The service no longer needs to be provided by the same clinician that will follow up with the member at the outpatient clinic. The service expectation is still a minimum 30-minute face-to-face contact with the member on the inpatient unit.

- **90899-U3 for Mental Health and 90899-U7 for Substance Abuse**

This service, which is rendered within the first seven days following hospital discharge, is being modified to permit any clinician in an outpatient clinic to bill for this service regardless of whether they saw the member during the inpatient admission. The service no longer needs to be provided by the same clinician that has rendered that outpatient engagement service (90899-HE or 90899-HF). (Day 1 = day of discharge)

- **90899-U4 for Mental Health and 90899-U8 for Substance Abuse**

This service, which is rendered from days 8 through days 31 following hospital discharge, will be modified to permit any clinician in an outpatient clinic to bill for this service regardless of whether they were involved in the engagement service (90899-HE or 90899-HF) or the initial therapy within the first seven days following the inpatient admission (90899-U3 or 90899-U7). The service reimbursement is still contingent on the first individual therapy service being provided within the first seven days following hospital discharge. However, the same clinician from engagement does not need to render the follow up therapy.

Services will continue to be authorized using the Enhanced Outpatient Authorization Request Form. Providers will receive updated HealthChoices Allegheny County fee schedules to reflect these updated administrative rules. The authorization request forms are on our website at <http://www.ccbh.com/providers/phealthchoices/forms/index.php>.

If you have any questions, please call 1-888-251-2224 and ask to speak to your assigned Provider Relations Representative.

Thank you.