



MEMORANDUM

To: Suzanne Feeney, General Manager, Medicaid, Behavioral Solutions, OptumHealth
William Fishbein, Doctor of Philosophy (PhD), Executive Director, OptumHealth New York City Behavioral Health Organization (BHO)
Adele Gorges, Executive Director, New York Care Coordination Program (NYCCP)
Deb Happ, PhD, Vice President, Operations, Magellan Behavioral Health
Kelly Lauletta, Hudson River Regional Director, Community Care Behavioral Health
Christine Mangione, Beacon Team Lead, NYCCP
Katharine O'Connell, General Manager, Magellan Central
New York BHO Richard Sheola, Corporate Vice President, ValueOptions
Mitchell Shuwall, Associate Executive Director, The Zucker Hillside Hospital, Long Island Jewish Medical Center
Carole Taylor, Chief Clinical Officer, Community Care Behavioral Health

From: Tom Smith, Office of Mental Health (OMH), Director of Operations, New York State BHOs
Don Zalucki, OMH Director, Bureau of Program and Policy Development
Heather Lane, OMH System of Care Coordinator

Date: January 26, 2012

Re: Guidance to BHOs regarding youth admissions to OMH State operated children's psychiatric centers or children's units of psychiatric centers

The Offices are providing guidance regarding questions raised by BHOs and inpatient providers regarding the review process for youth admitted to OMH State operated children's psychiatric centers or children's units of psychiatric centers. The following are Frequently Asked Questions and Answers regarding the process.

What is the target population?

Children and youth who are directly admitted to OMH State operated children's psychiatric centers or children's units of psychiatric centers and are who are

Medicaid recipients at the time of admission.

Are there any exemptions for direct admissions?

Yes. Populations exempt from the BHO review process include:

- Youth remanded to OMH State operated children’s psychiatric centers or children’s units of psychiatric centers through court orders are exempt because the County (not Medicaid) is the payee for the duration of mandated care.
- Youth admitted from psychiatric or medical inpatient units of Article 28, Article 31, County/Municipal, VA, or out-of-state hospitals.
- Youth admitted from Residential Treatment Facilities.
- Youth who do NOT have Medicaid as their payee (for any reason) on the day of admission to OMH State operated children’s psychiatric centers or children’s units of psychiatric centers.

Will a hospital need to contact the BHO for court-ordered youth once they are converted to minor voluntary status and are Medicaid recipients?

No, since the child was not a Medicaid recipient on the admission date.

If a child is transferred from an acute inpatient facility to a State Children’s Psychiatric Center, does the review process continue?

The review process **does not continue** when a child is transferred to a **State Children’s Psychiatric Center** from another inpatient setting.

If a child is admitted from another region which BHO should the inpatient provider contact?

Inpatient facilities should notify the BHO in their region regardless of youth’s county of origin.

When does a ”Long Stay” designation apply?

Some youth will have extended inpatient stays and frequent reviews will present unnecessary burden to providers. The Offices will waive the requirement for the specified concurrent review intervals for youth the BHO designates as “Long Stay” when all of the following criteria are met:

- The youth meets the criteria for inpatient care.
- The youth presents with symptoms and/or history that demonstrates a significant likelihood of deterioration in functioning/relapse if transitioned to a less intensive level of care.
- The BHO care manager and provider concur that the current treatment and discharge plans best meet the youth’s needs.

- The youth's discharge is delayed pending availability of resources that both the provider and BHO believe are necessary to maintain the youth outside of the current hospital setting, e.g., intermediate care inpatient, residential treatment, or foster care beds.

For Long Stay youth, follow-up reviews will be scheduled by the BHOs at intervals deemed appropriate based upon clinical judgment.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

cc: Robert Myers, OMH
Kristin Riley, OMH
Steve Hanson, OASAS
John Tauriello, OMH
Jay Zucker, OMH
Gary Weiskopf, OMH
Peggy O'Shea, OMH
Pam Wondro, OMH
Pam Nash, OASAS
Anita Appel, OMH
Steve Rabinowitz, OASAS
Trish Marsik, DOHMH
Lily Tom, DOHMH
Anita Daniels, OMH
Tom McOlvin, OMH
Lewis Campbell, OMH
Mark Stephany, OMH
Tom Uttaro, OMH
Rob Kent, OASAS
Adam Karpati, DOHMH
Briana Gilmore, OMH
Susan Essock, OMH
Sheila Donahue, OMH
Tom Wallace, OMH
Patrick Morrison, OASAS
May Lum, OMH
Tim Donovan, OASAS
Mike Hoffman, OMH
Lisa Lite-Rottmann, OASAS
Rachael Petitti, DOHMH
Keith Little, OMH
Kathe Hayes, OMH
Margaret Dugan, OMH
Colleen Sawyer, OMH
Samuel Bastien, OMH