



TO: Freestanding Mental Health, Medical, Rehabilitation, and Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) Clinic Providers

RE: New Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership Changes

The purpose of this bulletin is to provide information on the New Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership for the Medicaid fee-for-services (FFS) and Medicaid for Low Income Adults (MLIA) clients, as well as modifications to the existing Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership (CT BHP). Please refer to Policy Transmittal 2011-15 "New Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership" for additional information.

Beginning April 1, 2011, the CT BHP Administrative Services Organization (ASO) Value Options (VO) will authorize behavioral health services for Medicaid FFS and MLIA clients, and is reinitiating Prior Authorization (PA) requirements for the intensive outpatient program and outpatient psychotherapy services.

#### **Intensive Outpatient Treatment (IOP) and Outpatient Behavioral Health Prior Authorization Changes:**

PA requirements for intensive outpatient program and outpatient psychotherapy services that were temporarily suspended for Medicaid FFS and MLIA clients as reported in Provider Bulletin 2010-38 "National Health Reform – State Administered General Assistance Program Becomes Medicaid for Low Income Adults" will be reinstated effective with dates of service April 1, 2011 and forward. Authorization requirements for FFS and MLIA clients will mirror the current CT BHP authorization requirements. These requirements can be viewed on the CT BHP Web site at [www.ctbhp.com](http://www.ctbhp.com).

For clients beginning IOP on or after April 1, 2011, providers will be able to use the Web based registration process located on the CT BHP Web site at [www.ctbhp.com](http://www.ctbhp.com).

All psychiatric services beginning with the first visit will now follow CT BHP authorization requirements for FFS and MLIA clients.

It is important to check the new provider fee schedules posted to the CT BHP Web site. Fee schedules and authorization schedules for covered services under the CT BHP as well as answers to frequently asked questions can be found at [www.ctbhp.com](http://www.ctbhp.com) as they become available. Questions about the CT BHP can be directed to the CT BHP at 1-877-552-8247.

#### **New Authorizations or Registrations of Services:**

##### **Routine Outpatient (OP):**

Beginning April 1, 2011 providers will be allowed up to 60 days to enter OP authorization requests to continue services for existing FFS and MLIA patients who entered treatment prior to April 1, 2011.

##### **Intensive Outpatient Treatment (IOP):**

Beginning April 1, 2011 providers will be allowed up to 30 days to enter IOP authorization requests to continue services for existing FFS and MLIA patients who entered treatment prior to April 1, 2011.

##### **Extended Day Treatment (EDT):**

Beginning April 1, 2011 providers must call the CT BHP ASO at 1-877-552-8247 for authorization requests to continue services for existing FFS and MLIA patients who entered treatment prior to April 1, 2011 or for initial authorization requests for patients who enter treatment on or after that date.

**Note: Claims will not pay until authorizations or registrations have been approved in the system.**

#### **Mental Health FQHC Providers:**

As of April 1, 2011, Mental Health Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) will be required to follow the CT BHP authorization schedule for FFS and MLIA clients as they do for their HUSKY A and HUSKY B clients. These requirements can be viewed on the CT BHP Web site at [www.ctbhp.com](http://www.ctbhp.com).

For clients beginning IOP on or after April 1, 2011, providers will be able to use the Web based registration process located on the CT BHP Web site at [www.ctbhp.com](http://www.ctbhp.com).

FQHC providers beginning April 1, 2011 will be allowed up to 60 days to enter OP authorization requests to continue services for existing FFS and MLIA patients who entered treatment prior to April 1, 2011.

Beginning April 1, 2011 FQHC providers will be allowed up to 30 days to enter IOP authorization requests to continue services for existing FFS and MLIA patients who entered treatment prior to April 1, 2011.

Beginning April 1, 2011 providers must call the CT BHP ASO at 1-877-552-8247 for authorization requests to continue EDT services for existing FFS and MLIA patients who entered treatment prior to April 1,



2011 or for initial authorization requests for patients who enter treatment on or after that date.

**Note: Claims will not pay until authorizations or registrations have been approved in the system.**

#### **Payment Rates**

Payment rates for CT BHP covered services follow the rules for the individual's coverage (HUSKY A, HUSKY B, Charter Oak, DCF Voluntary Services, Medicaid FFS or MLIA) and have not changed with the expansion of the CT BHP. Currently the rate for services provided to individuals covered by HUSKY A, HUSKY B, DCF Voluntary Services or Charter Oak, is different from the rate paid for services provided to individuals covered by Medicaid FFS or MLIA. The different rates will continue under the expanded CT BHP. Payment rates can be viewed by going to the "For Providers" section of the CT BHP Web site at [www.ctbhp.com](http://www.ctbhp.com).

#### **Timely Filing Guidelines**

The timely filing guidelines remain unchanged for all benefit plans. The timely filing requirement for claims submission for HUSKY A, HUSKY B and Charter Oak benefit plans is 120 days; for FFS or MLIA benefit plans the timely filing requirement is 365 days.

#### **Additional Resources**

For additional information regarding the CT BHP expansion, go to [www.ctdssmap.com](http://www.ctdssmap.com) and click on the New Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership Important Message on the Home page. This Important Message will provide links to previously published bulletins as well as a link to the CT BHP Web site at [www.ctbhp.com](http://www.ctbhp.com).

