
PROVIDER ALERT

Alert#: **PA-2012-06**
Issued: **July 23, 2012**
To: **CT BHP Home Health Providers**
Subject: **CT BHP Modifications to Home Health Authorization Parameters**

Dear Provider,

This alert is to serve as advanced notification of upcoming changes to the authorization parameters for CT BHP Home Health Agency services. Effective 9/1/12, the authorization parameters related to authorization time spans and the number of units for Medication Administration will be modified.

The CT BHP initial authorization currently authorizes home health agency services for a 90 day period and a request for Medication Administration (MAD) can be made for up to 96 units. Effective 9/1/12, Home Health Agency authorizations will result in an initial authorization for a 60 day period rather than a 90 day period and requests for up to 60 units of Medication Administration will be allowed, rather than 96 units. These modifications to initial authorization timeframes and Medication Administration requests will allow CT BHP and home health providers to reassess the member's progress and initiate recovery planning earlier in care, as well as provide uniformity with the current 60 day physician order cycle re-evaluation per Federal and State regulations.

Initial Authorization and Concurrent Review Process – Effective 9/1/12

1. Home Health Providers register initial authorization for home health services through ProviderConnect application. (60 day authorization – Request will auto approve if services requested are within authorization parameters.)
2. Concurrent Reviews
 - a. Home Health Providers will submit first concurrent review through the ProviderConnect application.
 - b. Requests will automatically pend to a CT BHP clinician for review.
 - c. CT BHP may approve the request via the web or call the provider to further discuss the authorization request.

Please note:

- 1) The above modifications will only affect home health services initiated on or after September 1, 2012. Authorizations for home health agency services obtained prior to September 1, 2012, will still be valid and existing procedures, other than the time span of concurrent authorizations for those will continue through their discharge.
- 2) Only Behavioral Health Medication Administration unit parameters (96 to 60 units) will be affected. Authorization parameters for Skilled Nursing, Home Health Aides, Occupational, Physical and Speech Therapy will remain unchanged.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact the CT BHP Call Center at 1-877-552-8247.

Provider Relations Department
Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership