



**Connecticut Department of Social Services  
Medical Assistance Program  
Provider Bulletin**

**PB 2005-63**

**November 2005**

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**TO: All Providers and Managed Care Organizations**

**SUBJECT: Behavioral Health Partnership Overview**

Pursuant to Sections 92 through 102 of Public Act 05-280, this bulletin provides important information about a new initiative taking place between the Department of Social Services (DSS) and the Department of Children and Families (DCF) for the development and implementation of an integrated behavioral health services system for HUSKY A and HUSKY B clients and for children with complex behavioral health needs served by DCF. This initiative is called the Behavioral Health Partnership (BHP) and it will begin January 1, 2006.

The BHP seeks to increase access to quality behavioral health services through: (1) expansion of individualized, family-centered, community-based services; (2) enhanced care management services for children with complex behavioral health service needs; (3) maximization of federal revenue to fund behavioral health services; (4) reduction in the unnecessary use of institutional and residential services for children; (5) improved administrative oversight and efficiencies; and (6) monitoring of individual outcomes and provider performance.

Beginning January 1, 2006, an Administrative Services Organization (ASO) under contract to DSS and DCF will authorize and manage the behavioral health services of clients under the BHP. The Managed Care Organizations (MCO), or their subcontractors, will no longer manage or pay claims for behavioral health services for dates of service on or after January 1, 2006. Behavioral health services will instead be managed by the ASO. EDS will process behavioral health claims for BHP clients for dates of services on or after January 1, 2006. **Providers who have claims for dates of service that span that transition date will need to split the claim between the client's MCO and EDS.**

Providers that wish to be reimbursed for behavioral health services under the BHP must be enrolled with DSS as a Connecticut Medical Assistance Program provider. Those providers who currently can be paid directly by EDS for services to Connecticut Medicaid clients are already Connecticut Medical Assistance Program providers and **do not need to take any action** at this time. Hospitals, freestanding clinics, federally qualified health centers, methadone treatment facilities, home health agencies and freestanding detoxification centers **do not need** to credential each of their performing clinicians with EDS.

Providers who wish to enroll as a Connecticut Medical Assistance Program provider should obtain an enrollment application by contacting the EDS Provider Assistance Center at the



numbers listed below or by writing to: EDS, Provider Enrollment Unit, P.O. Box 5007, Hartford, CT 06104.

Fee schedules and rates are being developed for services provided under the BHP. These fee schedules and rates will be different than the fee schedules and rates for non-HUSKY clients under Medicaid.

Fee schedules and information about covered services under the 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 BHP can be directed to the BHP at 1-877-552-8247 or [BHP.dss@po.state.ct.us](mailto:BHP.dss@po.state.ct.us).

The BHP will provide referral assistance as of January 1, 2006. Primary care practitioners, hospital discharge planners, care managers and other medical providers seeking information about behavioral health providers for referral purposes can contact the BHP at [www.ctbhp.com](http://www.ctbhp.com) or by calling 1-877-552-8247.

Information about claim submission is available in Chapters 5 and 8 of the Connecticut Medical Assistance Provider manual which is available at [www.ctmedicalprogram.com](http://www.ctmedicalprogram.com). Please note that under the BHP the timely filing requirement for claim submission will be 120 days from the actual date of service.

In the coming weeks, the Department will continue to provide additional and more detailed information concerning the implementation of the BHP.

**Please Note: Services and reimbursement for non-BHP clients under what is typically called ‘fee-for-service’, ‘traditional’, ‘unmanaged’ or ‘straight’ Medicaid will remain unchanged. These clients are not covered under the BHP.**

**MCO’s are requested to forward this bulletin to all contracted providers.**

This bulletin and other program information can be found on at [www.ctmedicalprogram.com](http://www.ctmedicalprogram.com). Questions regarding this bulletin may be directed to the EDS Provider Assistance Center - Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at:

In-state toll free ..... **800-842-8440** or  
Out-of-state or in the  
Local New Britain, CT area ... **860-832-9259**

EDS  
PO Box 2991  
Hartford, CT 06104

