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# PROVIDER ALERT

**Alert#:** PA-2010-04  
**Issued:** February 2010  
**TO:** CT BHP Child/Adolescent Inpatient Psychiatric Providers  
**SUBJECT:** CT BHP Bypass Program

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Dear Provider,

The CT BHP is pleased to announce that we are in the final stages of developing a Bypass Program for Child/Adolescent Inpatient Psychiatric providers. The benefit of a Bypass Program is that it will provide administrative relief to inpatient providers by authorizing care for longer periods of time, thus decreasing the number of concurrent reviews required for a stay. Initially, the Bypass Program will be used for those inpatient mental health facilities where there is little variation in average length of stay (ALOS) and no concerns relative to quality of care. The following describes an abridged listing of criteria and methodology being proposed for this program.

**Eligibility for the Bypass Program for Child/Adolescent inpatient psychiatric services would be based upon:**

- Demonstrated willingness and ability to work with the CT BHP to manage program length of stay;
- An average length of stay (ALOS) that is no greater than the annually determined number of standard deviations from the statewide average;
- Treatment of an annually determined minimum volume of members during the previous calendar year;
- Verification that the provider has no current quality improvement or corrective action plans related to quality of care involving the targeted inpatient unit/s.
- A 30 day readmission rate that falls below the annually determined rate.

**Proposed eligibility criteria and length of initial authorization for child/adolescent inpatient participants in 2010 program:**

All decisions regarding participation in the child/adolescent inpatient psychiatric services Bypass Program will be based upon authorization data for calendar year 2009 (Q1 '09 through Q4 '09). Programs with:

1. An ALOS that falls within 0.25 Standard Deviations (SD) of the state-wide ALOS, and
2. Have treated a minimum of 20 members during calendar year 2009, and
3. Have no current quality improvement or corrective action plan related to quality of care associated with the targeted child/adolescent inpatient units treating CT BHP members, and
4. A 30 day readmission rate that remains below the established measure, and
5. Agreement from facility to call CT BHP with discharge information.

Child/Adolescent inpatient programs that meet these qualifications would receive a 6 day initial authorization for psychiatric admissions for the CT BHP members.

Child/Adolescent inpatient facilities will be outreached directly by the CT BHP in the coming week and will be given additional information and a complete listing of the criteria and determination of participation for this Bypass program.

Sincerely,

Provider Relations  
Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership