



TO: Community Services, Mental Health Group Home and Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities

RE: New Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership Prior Authorization and Claim Submission Changes

This bulletin provides important information regarding Prior Authorization (PA) and Claim Submission modifications to the existing Connecticut Behavioral Health Partnership (CT BHP) as was previously communicated in Policy Transmittal PB 2011-15 issued by the Department of Social Services (DSS). Effective for dates of service April 1, 2011 and forward, the following information identifies the changes and similarities these modifications will have on each of the provider groups indicated.

### **Community Services Providers**

Expansion of CT BHP now provides certain community services to both the Medicaid Fee For Service (FFS) and Medicaid for Low Income Adults (LIA) clients, in addition to the current HUSKY A & HUSKY B and covered Department of Children and Families (DCF) clients already served. Providers are allowed to bill only those procedure codes that they are approved for at the time of enrollment. All services will require PA. Please refer to the PA section of this bulletin.

### **Mental Health Group Home Providers**

In addition to currently providing Mental Health Group Home services to both Medicaid FFS and Medicaid LIA clients, these services have been expanded to include HUSKY A clients. PA is required for all populations.

Existing PAs for Medicaid FFS or Medicaid LIA clients initiated prior to April 1, 2011 will remain in effect until units of service are exhausted. Any requests for continued length of stay must be made to the CT BHP Administrative Service Organization (ASO), Value Options (VO), as noted in the PA section of this bulletin.

### **Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities**

Services provided in a Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility have been expanded to include Medicaid LIA clients. PA is required for Medicaid LIA clients and continues to be required for the existing Medicaid FFS and HUSKY A & HUSKY B clients already serviced.

### **Prior Authorization**

Beginning April 1, 2011, the CT BHP Administrative Services Organization (ASO), Value Options (VO), will begin to authorize Community, Mental Health Group Home and Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility services as noted above for Medicaid FFS and Medicaid LIA clients, in addition to services already being authorized for the current HUSKY population and certain DCF clients under the existing CT BHP. Providers must contact CT BHP at **1-877-552-8247** for all PA requests.

### **Client Eligibility**

Obtaining service authorization does not guarantee payment. Providers are encouraged to verify client eligibility prior to each episode of service. The Automated Eligibility Verification System (AEVS) will identify the individual's eligibility group, i.e. "Medicaid Services" for FFS or "Medicaid LIA" in addition to directing the provider to the CT BHP call center "For Behavioral Health Services, call BHP at 1-877-522-8247" for service authorization.

### **Claim Submission and Reimbursement**

Once an eligible client's program coverage has been confirmed for the services to be provided, providers can determine timely filing guidelines for claim submission. The client's program coverage determines the filing limit. HUSKY A and HUSKY B claims have a 120 day limit while Medicaid FFS and Medicaid LIA have a 365 day limit for the timely filing of claims. Providers must submit all claims for HUSKY A and HUSKY B, Medicaid FFS and Medicaid LIA to HP within these guidelines. Providers are reminded that claims must be split for services spanning different coverage programs. A PA, however, may span more than one program.

Service reimbursement is also determined by the client's benefit plan. HUSKY services are reimbursed based on the CT BHP fee schedule which can be found on the [www.ctbhp.com](http://www.ctbhp.com) Web site. Medicaid FFS and Medicaid LIA services will be reimbursed based on the Special Services fee schedule located on the [www.ctdssmap.com](http://www.ctdssmap.com) Web site > Provider > Provider Fee Schedule Download > select provider type, "Special Services".



**Additional Resources**

For additional client eligibility, PA or claim submission information providers should:

- Access the [www.ctdssmap.com](http://www.ctdssmap.com) Web site Home page and click on the Important Message regarding the New Connecticut Behavioral Partnership.
- Access the CT BHP Web site at [www.ctbhp.com](http://www.ctbhp.com).
- Access the [www.ctdssmap.com](http://www.ctdssmap.com) Web site > Publications > Provider Manuals > Chapter 4 (eligibility) Chapter 5 (claim submission information) or Chapter 8 for provider specific claim submission information.

