



ACCESS AND UTILIZATION
MANAGEMENT
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PBH UM/ACCESS Communication Bulletin

Communication Bulletin FY-1011-UM-11

To: PBH MH/SA Network Providers
From: Craig B. Hummel, MD
PBH Medical Director

Date: March 14, 2011

RE: Clarification of Certificate of Need (CON) for Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF) Services

Admission to a Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF) requires prior authorization from PBH. Documentation must include Certificate of Need (CON) along with the service request. The Original CON should be maintained in the patient's medical record.

PBH will authorize PRTF services only from the date the request has been reviewed by the Utilization Management Department and determined to be medically necessary.

The Certificate of Need is valid for 15 days from the date of the Physician's signature on the CON. The Federal Regulations require that the team signing the CON must meet the following criteria:

The team must include, as a minimum, either—

- (1) A Board-eligible or Board-certified psychiatrist;
- (2) A clinical psychologist who has a doctoral degree and a physician licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy; or
- (3) A physician licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy with specialized training and experience in the diagnosis and treatment of mental diseases, and a psychologist who has a master's degree in clinical psychology or who has been certified by the State or by the State psychological association.

The team must also include one of the following:

- (1) A psychiatric social worker.
- (2) A registered nurse with specialized training or one year's experience in treating mentally ill individuals.
- (3) An occupational therapist who is licensed, if required by the State, and who has specialized training or one year of experience in treating mentally ill individuals.
- (4) A psychologist who has a master's degree in clinical psychology or who has been certified by the State or by the State psychological association.

For Additional information please refer to 42CFR 441.152 through 42CFR 441.156

Please contact the Utilization Management Department at 704-743-2100 with any questions.

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