

*Creating solutions, **One person at a time.***

## **PBH Communications Bulletin**

**FY-1112-UM-05**

**To: PBH Network Providers**

**From: Craig Hummel, M.D., PBH Medical Director**

**Date: October 14, 2011**

**Re: Changes in Authorizations for Medication Management and Psychological Testing**

The changes noted below will be effective **immediately**.

### **Psychiatric and Medication Services**

Providers will no longer be required to submit authorization requests for Psychiatric/Medication Services for **Medicaid** consumers. This will include the following service codes:

90805, 90807, 90809, 90811, 90813, 90817, 90819, 90862, 90772, 96372,  
and all E&M service codes.

PBH's Utilization Management Department will process any Treatment Authorization Requests (TARS) received for consumers for these as administrative denials due to no authorization being required. When this occurs this will be noted on the TAR.

### **Psychological and Neuropsychological Testing**

For Psychological Testing (96101 and 96111) no authorization will be required **for Medicaid** consumers for up to 6 hours of testing per year. For Neuropsychological Testing (96116 and 96118) no authorization will be required **for Medicaid** consumers for up to 8 hours of testing per year. It is recommended that any provider administering the above mentioned testing services inquires about previous test history, in order to prevent duplication of service and possible claims denials.

Any provider requesting units above these frequencies will need prior authorization and must furnish a clear description of why the limits need to be exceeded. This description should also include what tests will be included in the battery and the purpose of the testing. Please remember authorizations **will not** be backdated.



As a reminder testing is not covered when it is for:

1. Educational or achievement testing for the sole purpose of resolving educational performance questions.
2. Psychological testing for conditions which are classified solely as a learning disability.
3. Psychological testing performed by a psychiatric nurse, social worker or any other allied mental health professional, for whom psychological testing is beyond his/her “scope of practice” and/or for which he/she is not licensed.
4. Claims submitted by an eligible provider for a service not personally performed by that provider and for which he/she is not legally responsible.
5. Scoring of psychological testing, report writing, and sessions to review test results are considered integral to the testing and are not eligible for separate reimbursement.

### **Outpatient Therapy Services**

The unmanaged visits for outpatient therapy (individual, family, and group) for Medicaid consumers will remain at the current limits of 8 for Adults and 12 for Children. For consumers in Alamance and Caswell Counties these counts started as of October 1, 2011. PBH is currently reviewing these frequencies and may make changes in the future.

Please be aware that PBH will continue to monitor use of these services through our Utilization Review and Data Collection processes and may at any time request copies of provider’s records for review.

Any questions regarding this Communication Bulletin should be directed to PBH UM at 704-939-7700 or email us at [UtilizationM@pbhsolutions.org](mailto:UtilizationM@pbhsolutions.org).

