

DATE: December 29, 2014

OPERATIONS MEMORANDUM #14-12-03

SUBJECT: Behavioral Health (BH) for Medical Assistance (MA) Recipients

TO: Executive Directors

FROM: Tom Strickler
Director
Bureau of Operations

PURPOSE

To inform County Assistance Offices (CAOs) of processing MA for eligible recipients in a Drug and Alcohol (D&A) facility who were active prior to December 1, 2014.

BACKGROUND

The Department made adjustments to current case processing for residents of D&A treatment programs who were opened for MA after December 1, 2014. The Department is also requiring updates to active cases for individuals who were active in PD-00A prior to December 1, 2014 and who have been placed into the *Healthy PA* Private Coverage Option (PCO) effective January 1, 2015. This ensures the appropriate continuation of the HealthChoices BH Managed Care program.

DISCUSSION

A list will be provided to the CAOs identifying cases with individuals who were active in a PD-00A budget and who were transitioned to the PCO category. These individuals must now be moved into the MG 91 category.

To ensure proper placement into MG 91, a D&A facility code (01) must be entered on the Facility Placement screen. If the code is being entered prior to January 1, 2015, the facility code should be entered and eligibility re-run. If the code is being entered after January 1, 2015, the CAO will:

- Create a new Application Number for the case record
- Enter the Program Add workflow
- On the Program Request screen, select “edit” for the MA benefit and change to “Yes” in the Process field

- On the Individual Program Request screen, check the box for January 2015 in the Retroactive MA section
- Enter the D&A facility code (01) on the Facility Placement Screen
- Complete processing as normal

This will create an effective date of January 1, 2015 for the MG 91 budget. If the individual remains in the PCO category after eligibility is re-run, an override must be completed using code 903. Once the budget has been authorized with an effective date of January 1, 2015, the Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services will prioritize these cases for BH Managed Care Organization enrollment.

Note: If processing an MA application for an individual receiving D&A residential treatment after January 1, 2015, the D&A facility code (01) should be entered on the Facility Placement screen to ensure proper benefit package assignment.

Note: Please see [attached letter](#) from the Secretary of the Department of Human Services, Bev Mackereth, and the Secretary of the Department of Drug and Alcohol programs, Gary Tennis, to Drug and Alcohol stakeholders regarding the reports of enrollment issues and the Departments' commitment to addressing them.

NEXT STEPS

1. Share and review this information with appropriate staff members.
2. Please contact your area manager if you have questions regarding this Operations Memorandum.
3. This Operations Memorandum will become obsolete on February 14, 2015.