



INDIANA MEDICAID UPDATE

November 20, 1998

TO: All Indiana Medicaid Mental Health Facilities and Clinics

SUBJECT: Payment of Services Provided By Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists and Licensed Mental Health Counselors Who are Employees of Enrolled Medicaid Outpatient Mental Health Facilities or Clinics.

In accordance with Senate Enrolled Act 461, Medicaid is in the process of modifying regulations to include licensed mental health counselors and licensed marriage and family therapists in the list of practitioners who may be reimbursed for services they render in a Medicaid enrolled, physician-directed outpatient mental health facility. The current rule includes non-HSPP psychologists, psychiatric and mental health clinical nurse specialists, certified clinical social workers and non-certified clinical social workers who hold an MSW degree.

This change is effective 1/1/99 although the promulgation of Medicaid's revised medical policy rule will not be finalized until sometime after that date. The portions of the rule that are being revised are 405 IAC 5-20 and 405 IAC 5-21. All requirements currently in that section relative to supervision and certification of the diagnosis and treatment plan by the psychiatrist will remain in effect, but will now apply to all midlevel practitioners who may provide services.

Midlevel practitioners may not be separately enrolled as individual providers, but may be employed by an outpatient mental health facility or clinic which is enrolled in Medicaid. They may be reimbursed for Medicaid covered services they render, which are billed by their employer. Services rendered by licensed marriage and family therapists or licensed mental health counselors must be billed using the AJ modifier in location 24D of the HCFA 1500 claim form.

If you have any questions regarding the content of this bulletin, please contact Provider Assistance at 1-800-577-1278 or (317) 655-3240 locally.

