



P R O V I D E R B U L L E T I N

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To: All Indiana Health Coverage Programs Psychiatrists, Physicians, Health Service Providers in Psychology, and Mental Health Facilities and Clinics

Subject: Changes to the Medicaid Medical Policy Rule Regarding Outpatient Mental Health Services (405 IAC 5-20 and 405 IAC 5-21)

Overview

The Indiana Health Coverage Programs (IHCP) has revised certain sections of the rule that addresses outpatient mental health services. Some of these changes were made to comply with a legislative requirement and other changes were technical in nature and included a revision in the timeframe for case review by health service providers in psychology (HSPPs) or psychiatrists. This bulletin specifies the rule changes that impact IHCP policy and operations relative to mental health services.

The changes made to comply with *P.L. 207-1999* are effective January 1, 2000. These changes include the following:

- **HSPP Supervision:** IHCP policy was revised to allow HSPPs to supervise mid-level practitioners. Prior to this change, IHCP reimbursement was not available for services provided by mid-level practitioners supervised by HSPPs. The IHCP now allows the required review and certification of diagnoses and treatment plans, both initially and periodically, to be performed by physicians **or** HSPPs.
- **Midlevel Practitioner Services:** The IHCP reimburses for HSPP or physician-directed services rendered by certain midlevel practitioners that are employed by an outpatient mental health facility or clinic enrolled in the IHCP. Under both *405 Indiana Administrative Code (IAC) 5-20* and *405 IAC 5-21*, the list has been amended to include **licensed independent practice school**

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psychologists. Additionally, under 405 IAC 5-21, the list of qualified mental health professionals rendering services in a community mental health center was amended to include **advance practice nurses under Indiana Code (IC) 25-23-1-1(b)(3) credentialed in psychiatric or mental health nursing by the American Nurses Credentialing Center.** As with any services rendered by midlevel practitioners, the IHCP requires the services of licensed independent practice school psychologists or advance practice nurses to be physician or HSPP-supervised, and bill under the number of the enrolled IHCP provider using modifier AJ.

The following changes were not connected with *P.L. 207-1999* and became effective July 9, 2000, which is the effective date of the final rule revision:

- **Physician or HSPP Review:** The physician, psychiatrist, or HSPP must see the patient or review the patient's medical information within **seven** days of the intake process. Additionally, the physician, psychiatrist or HSPP must again see the patient or review the medical information at intervals not to exceed **90** days. All reviews must be documented in writing. Previously, initial review was required within 72 hours of intake, and subsequent reviews were required every 60 days. **This revision has been made to both 405 IAC 5-20 and 405 IAC 5-21, and applies to all mental health clinics or community mental health centers.**
- **Technical Changes:** The language in 405 IAC 5-20-8 was corrected to include advanced practice nurses rather than psychiatric or mental health clinical nurse specialists in the list of midlevel practitioners. The language in 405 IAC 5-20-8 was revised to denote that any missed appointment is not reimbursable by the IHCP.

Additional Information

If there are any questions about this bulletin, providers should contact EDS Customer Assistance at (317) 655-3240 in the Indianapolis local area or 1-800-577-1278.