



State of New Jersey
Department of Human Services
Division of Medical Assistance & Health Services

NEWSLETTER

Volume 13 No. 7

February 2003

TO: Providers of Partial Hospitalization Services - For Action
Health Maintenance Organizations - For Information Only

SUBJECT: New Prior Authorization Requirements for Partial Hospitalization Services

EFFECTIVE: Immediately

PURPOSE: The purpose of this newsletter is to notify partial hospitalization (PH) service providers of a change in the prior authorization requirements for fee-for-service (FFS) PH services provided to certain New Jersey FamilyCare (NJFC) beneficiaries.

BACKGROUND: The New Jersey Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services (DMAHS) provides FFS coverage and reimbursement for partial hospitalization services provided to certain NJFC-eligible beneficiaries. NJFC Plans A through D and NJFC Plan I beneficiaries are eligible for full or limited coverage of PH services.

Although managed care provides many NJFC-covered services, mental health services, including PH, are provided by the State's FFS program. Prior authorization (PA) is currently required for PH after the first 90 days of initial treatment, (See Medicaid Newsletter Volume 11, No. 63 for billing procedures).

It is important to note that PH is not a covered service for Work First New Jersey (WFNJ)/General Assistance (GA) beneficiaries enrolled in the NJFC Plans G and H. WFNJ/GA beneficiaries are eligible to receive these services through the State's Charity Care program.

ACTION: **Effective immediately**, FFS coverage and reimbursement for partial hospitalization provided by DMAHS to NJFC Plans A through D and NJFC Plan I beneficiaries will require prior authorization after the first 30 days of initial treatment. After the initial 30-day period, prior authorization of PH is required for a beneficiary's lifetime.

If you have any questions concerning this Newsletter, please contact the DMAHS Mental Health Unit, Office of Utilization Management at (609) 588-2749.

**RETAIN THIS NEWSLETTER NUMERICALLY BEHIND THE NEWSLETTER TAB
(BLUE TAB MARKED "5")**