

TO: General Hospitals and Freestanding Mental Health Clinics

RE: Enhanced Care Clinic Access Requirements Clarification

The purpose of this policy transmittal is to clarify the method for determining whether a provider qualifies for a temporary suspension of the Enhanced Care Clinic (ECC) access requirements. This method applies to ECC services rendered to HUSKY A, HUSKY B, HUSKY C, HUSKY D and Charter Oak registrations.

Adequacy of an ECC's performance on access requirements is assessed by periodic compliance surveys. One of the survey methods is the quarterly assessment of Web registration data to determine whether patients were seen or appointments offered within the timeframes established in PB 2007-44.

PB 2009-26 provides for a temporary suspension of ECC timely access requirements during any quarter during which volume of unduplicated new admissions increased more than 20% compared to the same quarter in the preceding year. This is based upon WEB registration data provided to the CT BHP WEB registration system. For example, unduplicated new admissions in quarter two of calendar year 2012 will be compared to unduplicated new admissions in quarter two of calendar year 2012 will be compared to unduplicated new admissions in quarter two of calendar year 2011. A provider may qualify for the temporary suspension for any quarter during which volume increased more than 20%.

Effective July 1, 2012, ECC compliance with timely access will be assessed on a calendar year basis instead of a quarterly basis. Providers will still receive quarterly registration data in order to self-assess their progress regarding timely access. For any quarter for which a provider receives a volume exemption based upon an increase in volume of new admissions of more than 20% compared to the preceding year's quarter and for which the 95% timely access requirement was not met, the data for that quarter will not be included in the assessment of timely access for the calendar year. Suspension of the access requirements will be considered upon request of the ECC. The ECC must submit its request to Lois Berkowitz, Psy.D. (lois.berkowitz@ct.gov) and must provide the data to support the reported increase in volume. The ECC must also provide a written plan of action that will be undertaken in response to the volume increase. The Departments will review the request and undertake cross-validation prior to making a determination regarding the request for suspension.

For any calendar year in which a provider does not meet the timely access requirements, excluding those quarters for which there is an exemption, the provider will be required to submit a corrective action plan to the departments.

Posting Instructions: Policy transmittals can be downloaded from the Web site at <u>www.ctdssmap.com</u>

Distribution: This policy transmittal is being distributed to providers enrolled in the Connecticut Medical Assistance Program by HP Enterprise Services.

<u>Responsible Unit</u>: DSS, Division of Health Services, Paul Piccione, Ph.D., Behavioral Health Unit at (860) 424-5160.

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