

Magellan Compliance Notebook – May, 2016

Magellan Behavioral Health of Pennsylvania, Inc. (Magellan) strives to be proactive and use education as a preventative tool to help ensure our members receive the highest quality of care through you, the provider. The Compliance Department at Magellan is committed to sending monthly e-mails to targeted providers regarding a Compliance-related subject.

This e-mail communication is specific to your HealthChoices (Pennsylvania Medicaid) Contract with Magellan.

This month, we would like to remind contracted Outpatient Clinics about a specific Pennsylvania Medicaid regulatory requirement for Group Therapy (90853). Per the definitions below, **the maximum size for Group Therapy is limited to ten (10) persons**, unless the provider has an exception/ waiver in place. Recent audits of both Mental Health (MH) and Drug & Alcohol (D&A) Outpatient Clinics have revealed a trend of this specific deficiency.

PSYCHIATRIC OUTPATIENT CLINIC Group Psychotherapy is Psychotherapy provided to no less than two and no more than ten persons with diagnosed mental disorders for a period of at least 1 hour. These sessions shall be conducted by a clinical staff person (PA Code 55 § 1153.2).

OUTPATIENT DRUG AND ALCOHOL CLINIC Group Psychotherapy is Psychotherapy provided to no less than two and no more than ten persons with diagnosed drug/alcohol abuse or dependence problems for a minimum of 1 hour. These sessions shall be conducted by drug/alcohol clinic psychotherapy personnel under the supervision of a physician (PA Code 55 § 1223.2).

These regulatory requirements will continue to be assessed during routine and targeted audits by Magellan's Compliance and SIU Departments. Retractions and/or Corrective Action Plans may be applied as indicated.

At Magellan, we will continue to educate our providers with updated MA Bulletins, Regulations and other pertinent information in order to ensure Compliance.

Thank you for your ongoing hard work and dedication to our members!

Magellan of Pennsylvania's Compliance Team

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