

Magellan Compliance Notebook – October, 2017

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.

On 9/6/17, OMHSAS updated the Peer Support Services Frequently Asked Questions document based on the revised PSS Bulletin OMHSAS-16-12 and the related Provider Handbook, Section VII-II Peer Support Services. For your reference, these documents are attached.

Magellan wants to ensure that all Peer Support Providers (PSS) have reviewed these resources to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements. We also wanted to highlight the changes to the eligibility criteria for adults 18+.

PSS Eligibility Criteria for Adults:

To be eligible for adult peer support services, an individual shall meet the following:

- Be 18 years of age and older.
- Have the presence of or a history of a serious mental illness.
- Have a written recommendation for peer support services from a LPHA acting within the scope of professional practice.
- Chooses to receive peer support services.

Serious Mental Illness (SMI) is defined in the Provider Handbook as a diagnosable mental, behavioral, or emotional disorder that meets the diagnostic criteria within the current DSM and that has resulted in functional impairment and which substantially interferes with or limits one or more major life activities.

**Please note that previously, the definition of Serious Mental Illness (SMI) for PSS eligibility was based on the more limited state definition of “Adult Priority Group”. OMHSAS no longer refers to Bulletin OMH-94-04 Serious Mental Illness: Adult Priority Group in the new set of PSS standards. The updated SMI definition (Provider Handbook Section VII-Other Services page VII-13) better aligns with the current federal definition of SMI indicating that the individual is required to meet the SMI diagnostic criteria within the current Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM) and that*

has resulted in functional impairment which substantially interferes with or limits one or more major life activities.

PSS Eligibility Criteria for Youth and Young Adults:

To be eligible for youth and young adult peer support services, an individual shall meet the following:

- Be 14 years of age and older but under 27 years of age.
- Have the presence of or a history of a serious emotional disturbance *or* serious mental illness.
- Have a written recommendation for peer support services from a LPHA acting within the scope of professional practice.
- Chooses to receive peer support services.

Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED) is defined as a condition experienced by a person under 18 years of age who currently or at any time during the past year had a diagnosable mental, behavioral, or emotional disorder of sufficient duration to meet diagnostic criteria specified within the current Diagnostic and Statistical Manual; and that resulted in functional impairment which substantially interferes with or limits the child’s role or functioning in family, school, or community activities.

This communication supersedes the Compliance E-mail Blast Magellan sent in May, 2015 specific to Peer Support Services eligibility criteria. The Case Management eligibility criteria remains unchanged.

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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