North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services

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Michael F. Easley, Governor
Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary

Michael Moseley, Director

September 20, 2006

To: LME Directors

From: Mike Moseley

Re: New State Funded Y-Codes for Use by Designated Non-Licensed Substance Abuse Professionals in Provision of Services to IPRS Substance Abuse Target Populations

As previously announced, effective September 20, 2006 Medicaid will only be reimbursing H-Codes representing services that are provided by a licensed professional, a Certified Clinical Supervisor (CCS), or by a designated provisionally licensed professional through June 30, 2007. Due to the continuing concerns that have been expressed by LMEs and providers about the current unavailability of a sufficient workforce of the Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist (LCAS) and Certified Clinical Supervisor (CCS) professionals, the Division is implementing an interim state policy to offer LMEs the option to reimburse providers in IPRS for certain enhanced benefit substance abuse services to target populations that are provided by designated non-licensed substance abuse professionals for the remainder of SFY 06-07.

Effective September 20, 2006 a State payment mechanism will be made available for LMEs to bill a new set of Y-Codes that may be utilized by designated non-licensed substance abuse professionals, for the provision of six (6) identified services that are concurrently classified under one of the H-Codes. This option applies only to IPRS substance abuse target populations receiving enhanced benefit services. For providers who have access to a LCAS or CCS professional, these providers are required to continue to utilize the current H-Codes. The same IPRS edits, audits and rates will be put into place for these Y-Codes as are currently in use with the comparable H-Codes.

This option, of course, will not change posted Medicaid policy. Because this option will involve state funds only, this will require LME management of state funds through its regular contracting, authorization, and monitoring processes. Please find attached a definition of the qualifications of the Designated Non-Licensed Substance Abuse Professional who is eligible to be reimbursed through these Y-Codes through 6/30/07, and a listing of the new Y-Codes and comparable H-Codes. Questions in this matter may be directed to Starleen Scott Robbins at 919-715-2775 or Spencer Clark at 919-733-4670.

cc: Secretary Carmen Hooker Odom
Allen Dobson, MD
DMHDDSAS Executive Leadership Team
DMHDDSAS Management Leadership Team
Yvonne Copeland
Patrice Roesler
Kaye Holder
MH Commissioner Chair
Coalition 2001 Chair
Kory Goldsmith
Debbie Crane
Regional Accountants
LME Finance Officers
Laketha Miller

Designated Non-Licensed Substance Abuse Professionals who are Eligible to be Reimbursed through New State Only Y-Codes through 6/30/07:

a) an individual who holds a Certified Substance Abuse Certification (CSAC) through the North Carolina Substance Abuse Professional Practice Board; or

b) a registered nurse who is licensed to practice in the State of North Carolina by the North Carolina Board of Nursing who also has four years of full-time accumulated experience serving substance abuse clients; or

c) graduate of a college or university with a Masters degree in a human service field and has one year of full-time, post-graduate degree accumulated supervised experience in alcoholism and drug abuse counseling; or

d) a graduate of a college or university with a bachelor's degree in a human service field and has two years of full-time, post-bachelor's degree accumulated experience in alcoholism and drug abuse counseling; or

e) a graduate of a college or university with a bachelor's degree in a field other than human services and has four years of full-time, post-bachelor's degree accumulated experience in alcoholism and drug abuse counseling.

The above individuals are required to be registered or certified with the NC Substance Abuse Professional Practice Board and receiving supervision by a Certified Clinical Supervisor (CCS).

	H-Codes for Medicaid and IPRS Billing Only by Licensed Professionals, CCS, & Provisionally Licensed Professionals Effective 9/20/06	New Y-Codes for IPRS Only State Billing By DMH/DD/SAS Designated Non-Licensed Substance Abuse Professionals from 9/20/06 through 6/30/07	Unit Reimbursement Rate
Alcohol and/or Drug Assessment-	H0001	YP830	$22.00
Behavioral Health Counseling	H0004	YP831	$22.00
Behavioral Health Counseling – Group Therapy	H0004HQ	YP832	$8.11
Behavioral Health Counseling - Family Therapy with Client	H0004HR	YP833	$22.00
Behavioral Health Counseling - Family Therapy without Client	H0004HS	YP834	$22.00
Alcohol and/or Drug Group Counseling	H0005	YP835	$8.11