



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

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LME-MCO Joint Communication Bulletin # J416

DATE: May 26, 2022

TO: Local Management Entities-Managed Care Organizations (LME-MCOs)

FROM: Saarah Waleed, Interim Assistant Director for Policy and Programs, DMH/DD/SAS
Deb Goda, Associate Director, Behavioral Health and Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, NC Medicaid

SUBJECT: State-Funded TBI Long Term Residential Rehabilitation Service Definition

The Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services (DMH/DD/SAS) approved TBI Long Term Residential Rehabilitation (TBI LTRR) to be added as a new State-funded service under the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) benefit plan with an effective implementation date of September 1, 2022.

- The service requirements for TBI Long Term Residential Rehabilitation are as follows:
 - a. A Traumatic Brain Injury as defined by G.S. 122-C-3(12a) or G.S. 122-C-3(38a).

AND
 - b. The recipient is experiencing difficulties in at least one of the following areas due to a TBI:
 - 1. functional impairment in occupational, cognitive, physical and/or behavioral areas
 - 2. crisis intervention/diversion/aftercare needs, and/or
 - 3. at risk of placement in a nursing home or institution

AND
 - c. Any of the following apply:
 - 1. The individual meets at least one of the following:
 - i. At risk for out of home placement, hospitalization, and/or institutionalization due to symptoms associated with traumatic brain injury; and/or
 - ii. Presents with verbal and physical aggression due to symptoms associated with their diagnoses, which are sufficient to create functional problems in a community/home setting; and/or
 - iii. At risk of exclusion from services, placement or significant community support systems as a result of functional behavioral problems associated with the diagnosis; and/or

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- iv. Requires a structured setting to foster successful community re-integration through individualized interventions and activities.

OR

2. The individual's current residential living situation meets any one of the following
 - i. The individual has no residence.
 - ii. Current placement does not provide adequate structure and supervision to ensure safety
 - iii. Current placement does not provide adequate structure and supervision to ensure participation in treatment.
 - iv. Current placement involves relationships which undermine the stability of treatment.
 - v. Current placement limits opportunity for recovery, community integration and maximizing personal independence.
- TBI Residential Rehabilitation provides individualized rehabilitative services and supports for individuals aged 18 years and older in the TBI population. The service includes training and support for relearning skills, developing compensatory strategies and practicing new skills and for improvement of existing skills to assist the individual to complete activities of daily living and/or instrumental activities of daily living to the greatest level of independence possible.
- The service is provided in a licensed group home or Licensed Alternative Family Living (AFL) setting that serves individuals with TBI in accordance with G.S. 122C-3(12a) or G.S. 122C-3(38a).
- The service must be provided in a .5600 Supervised Living setting.
- Respite may also be used to provide temporary relief to individuals who reside in Licensed AFLs.
- TBI LTRR may not be billed on the same day as Respite if Respite is billed for more than four hours on that day.
- The cost associated with Therapeutic Leave is included in the per diem.
- The following services and documentation must be submitted prior to the provision of this service:
 - a. The following TBI Assessments:
 1. NC TBI Risk Support Needs Assessment and NC TBI Wellness Assessment, or
 2. Comparable TBI Assessment that address Risk and Wellness supports needs,
 - AND**
 - b. Comprehensive Clinical Assessment (CCA),
 - AND**
 - c. Physical Examination completed by a physician, or physician assistant within one year prior to admission and annually thereafter.
 - AND**
 - d. Confirmed TBI condition or approved TBI Diagnostic Verification.
- The TBI LTRR provider is responsible for providing or making provision for "first responder" crisis response on a 24/7/365 basis to individuals experiencing a crisis. Mobile Crisis Management can be utilized for Behavioral Health crisis when medically necessary.
- This service is not available at the same time of day as State Plan Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services, State Funded Day Activity, Adult Day Vocational Program and State Funded and Medicaid Funded Day Supports.
- Individuals who receive TBI Long Term Residential Rehabilitation may not receive State Funded or Medicaid Funded Community Living and Supports, Supported Living Periodic, Developmental Therapy, State Funded Personal Care Services and Personal Assistance.
- Payments for TBI Long Term Residential Rehabilitation do not include payments for room and board or the cost of facility maintenance and upkeep.
- This service is a daily 24/7 service.
- Transportation to and from the residence and points of travel in the community (i.e., employment) as outlined in the Person-Centered Plan (PCP) or Individual Support Plan (ISP) is included to the degree that they are not reimbursed by another funding source and not used for personal use.

Service Rates:

Level 1: The service rate is \$212.97, 1 unit = 1 day. The procedure code is YM849.

Level 2: The service rate is \$313.85, 1 unit = 1 day. The procedure code is YM853.

LME-MCOs maintain rate setting authority.

Billing should be completed as follows:

- Individuals NEW to the TBI LTRR service should enroll in TBI Long Term Residential Rehabilitation (Levels 1-2) and utilize the new appropriate NCTracks procedure code based upon assigned level effective Sept. 1, 2022.
- Individuals with TBI CURRENTLY enrolled in the TBI LTRR with NCTracks code YA328, must transition to the new available service by Feb. 28, 2023. Upon transitioning to the new service, the expectation is to utilize the new NCTracks procedure code and the new rates. The current NCTracks procedure code, YA328 will end-date on Feb. 28, 2023.

Ethical concerns should be submitted to DMH/DD/SAS Consumer Rights Team for review. If validated, additional review and action may be taken by the State.

If you have any questions, please contact Stephanie Jones at 984-236-5043 or Scott Pokorny at 984-236-5049 or via email at DMHIDDCONTACT@dhhs.nc.gov.

Attachments: TBI Residential Rehabilitation Service Definition
TBI Residential Rehabilitation FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions)

Previous bulletins can be accessed at: www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/mhddsas/joint-communication-bulletins

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