March 2017 Update

March 14, 2017

Memorandum

New Medicaid Reimbursement for LCPs & LCSWs

The Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) recently released new Medicaid reimbursement guidance for Licensed Clinical Psychologists (LCPs) and Licensed Clinical Social Workers (LCSWs). The fee schedule for these providers is retroactive to January 1, 2017. This guidance follows a LCP/LCSW Medicaid reimbursement Provider Notice published by HFS on December 28, 2016.

Updated Contraindications for Admission to a State Operated Hospital

The Department of Human Services’ Division of Mental Health Director Diana Knaebe recently shared updated contraindications for civil admission to a State Operated Hospital (SOH), which were revised in February 2017. Final decisions for admission are made by the SOHs Medical Director or designee after close case review and consultation with the referring physician. Illinois SOH catchment areas can be found here.

IHA Comments on Integrated Health Homes

On March 10, IHA provided formal comments to HFS on proposed Integrated Health Home (IHH) quality measures, based on feedback from IHA’s Behavioral Health Advisory Forum. IHA is representing members on a statewide Medicaid 1115 Waiver Advisory Committee, which provides feedback on 10 targeted focus areas, including IHHs.

At this point, there is uncertainty about how this behavioral health-specific waiver is prioritized at the federal level, considering the proposal to end the Affordable Care Act’s Medicaid expansion and transition the program to a per-capita cap funding model.

The Waiver Advisory Committee has had three meetings concerning the structure of IHHs, which would focus on patients with high behavioral health and physical health needs first, then the larger Medicaid population. Additional meetings will be necessary to clarify and
provide feedback on what quality metrics would be used for the IHHs, in addition to discussing reimbursement.

New IHA Behavioral Health Publications

IHA’s Behavioral Health Advisory Forum recently developed two resources for members:

- 2017 Strategic Plan: Medicaid Behavioral Health Delivery & Payment System Reform
- Illinois Youth Resources for Mental Health, Well-Being & Resilience

2017 Strategic Plan: Medicaid Behavioral Health Delivery & Payment System Reform
This plan was developed as a resource for members to use with various stakeholders and will contribute to IHAs advocacy efforts. IHAs Safety Net Constituency Section also provided feedback for this plan. Initial recommendations from this plan have already been consolidated into a letter of guidance to the HFS director for the state’s 1115 Demonstration Waiver focusing on behavioral healthcare.

Illinois Youth Resources for Mental Health, Well-Being & Resilience
Illinois Youth Resources for Mental Health, Well-Being & Resilience is a guide focused on suicide prevention and marginalized youth. Resources include helplines, direct services and additional supports. The guide is also intended to support community collaboration and coordination to enhance health and well-being. A Spanish-language translation version of the guide is also available.