

# NetworkNotes

United Behavioral Health-Albany Care Advocacy Center News for The Empire Plan Clinicians and Facilities

Spring 2011

## New York State (NYS) Empire Plan Mental Health and Substance Abuse Program: Disease Management

- **Depression Management**
- **Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)**
- **Eating Disorders**

Through OptumHealth Behavioral Solutions the NYS Empire Plan Mental Health and Substance Abuse Program offers programs to enrollees and their covered dependents. These resources can be accessed in a variety of ways by you or by enrollees:

- **Go online** at [liveandworkwell.com](http://liveandworkwell.com) (enter access code "Empire"). This member-focused site also contains materials for provider use.
  - Read articles on Depression, Eating Disorders and ADHD treatment and find resources for your patients
  - Access assessment tools for Depression and ADHD
  - Review the latest Clinical Practice Guidelines for Depression, Eating Disorders and ADHD

- **Call our Clinical Referral Line** (CRL) at 1-877-7NYSHIP (877-769-7447), option 3 or **(1-800-855-2881 (TTY)** for impaired hearing) to:

- Locate a behavioral health practitioner specializing in the treatment of Depression, Eating Disorders or ADHD
- Speak with our licensed Care Advocates about Depression, Eating Disorders or ADHD assessment and treatment options

- **Direct mailings.** Enrollees and covered dependents who have been treated for Depression, an Eating Disorder or ADHD may receive educational materials sent directly to their home to help them manage their clinical condition.
- **Individualized Case Management (ICM).** Enrollees and covered dependents may be recommended for voluntary ICM. Licensed Care Advocates will make contact at regular intervals to assist in accessing services, recommend additional resources and support coordination of care.



# Fraud, Waste and Abuse Reminders

The Anti-Kickback Statute [42 U.S.C. 1320a-7b(b)] and the Physician Self-Referral Law [42 U.S.C. 1395nn], also called the Stark law, are two important fraud and abuse laws that health care providers should take time to review and understand. According to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), violations of these laws can result in:

- Nonpayment of claims
- Civil monetary penalties

- Exclusion from the Medicare Program
- Liability for the submission of false claims
- Imprisonment and criminal fines

In addition, violations could result in termination from the Empire Plan Network. The Office of Inspector General (OIG) offers a "[Roadmap for New Physicians](#)" that covers five Fraud and Abuse laws relevant to direct care providers. While the title

indicates the materials are aimed at professionals new to the field, the information posted is useful to seasoned professionals and office staff. The following web resources may be helpful to you:

- [OIG Fraud Prevention and Detection](#)
- [CMS Medical Learning Network \(MLN\) for Medicare Fee-for-Service Providers](#)
- [CMS MLN Medicare Fraud & Abuse Fact Sheet](#)
- [CMS Physician Self-Referral Overview](#)

## New York State Empire Plan Network Requirements

The Empire Plan has established specific credentialing requirements for clinicians in New York. The following limitations are noted in the manual addendum for the Empire Plan:

- LMFT's, LMHC and LCSW's without the "r" certification are not eligible for participation in the Empire Plan network
- Nurse Practitioners are eligible to treat Empire Plan membership with the limitation set to medication management visits after the initial medication

evaluation is conducted by a Psychiatrist. A Nurse Practitioner must have a collaborative agreement and practice protocol in place with a network Psychiatrist and services are performed within the scope of the Registered Nurse Practitioner license with the exception of the diagnostic evaluation for purposes of prescribing medication.

### Empire Plan Manual Addendum

Please visit [ubhonline.com](http://ubhonline.com) and select Guidelines/Policies from the Quick Links menu to obtain an updated copy of the [New York State Empire MH/SA Manual Addendum](#).

The information herein offers informational resources and tools and is intended for educational purposes only. All treatment and level of care decisions are at the discretion of the clinician. Nothing herein is intended as legal advice or opinions. Please consult your legal advisor related to your particular practice.