

Network Notes

Minnesota Care Advocacy Center News for UBH-Contracted Clinicians and Facilities

Summer 2012

Screening Co-Occurring Disorders

Please be aware of the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) requirement that all state public program (PMAP, MNCARE, SNBC and MSHO) members must be screened for the presence of co-occurring mental illness and substance use disorders upon initial access of behavioral health services. While you may use the screening tool(s) of your choice, there are required specifications that must be met.

The state's recommended tools in mental health for detecting substance use are the Substance Use Disorder Screener of the Global Assessment of Individual Needs-Short Screener (GAIN-SS) or the CAGE-AID; and in a chemical health service setting for detecting mental health issues, sections 1 and 2 (Internalizing Disorder and Externalizing Disorder Screeners) of the Global Assessment of Individual Needs-Short Screener (GAIN-SS).

Details and background can be found on the Minnesota Department of Human Services website (<http://mn.gov/dhs>) including in the [January 2012 Bulletin #12-53-01](#).

After Hours Emergencies

We've all heard the following outgoing message, "If this is an emergency, please hang up and call 911 or go to your nearest emergency room." While this is not an incorrect direction in and of itself, it can unnecessarily increase ER cost burden for Members and does not meet the requirements of providers as outlined in the Network Manual. After-hours voice

message or answering service must provide instructions to Members regarding what to do in an emergency situation.

Talk to your patients during their sessions to establish a specific emergency action plan for them and how they can get in touch with you in the event of an emergency. If you are a provider with the generic emergency outgoing voice message,

please update your message to include instructions for all current clients to follow the emergency action plan established with their provider, and callers who are not current clients can be instructed to their nearest emergency room or to call 911.

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.