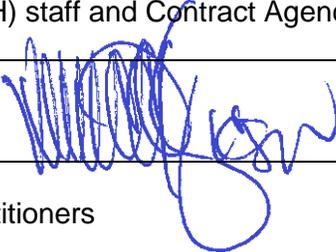




Department of Behavioral Health INFORMATION NOTICE 17-14

Date December 19, 2017

To Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) staff and Contract Agencies

From Veronica Kelley, LCSW, Director 

Subject Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioners

Introduction Effective January 1, 2018, Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioners (PMHNP) are now included as eligible health care providers in the San Bernardino County Mental Health Plan (MHP).

Discipline Requirements The PMHNP must be licensed in accordance with applicable California licensure requirements, which includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Possess and maintain a current Registered Nurse license in good standing by the CA Board of Registered Nursing
- Provide a copy of certification as a PMHNP issued by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC)
- Possess and maintain a current furnishing number issued by the CA Board of Registered Nursing
- Provide a copy of a valid Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) certificate

Important Note: The Nurse Practitioner license or website must indicate the Nurse Practitioner is a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner.

Eligible Provider and Scope of Services The PMHNP is a Nurse Practitioner with additional education, preparation and skills in psychiatry that assumes shared responsibility for the mental health care of patients, including directing services and furnishing/prescribing medication under the indirect supervision of a Psychiatrist/Physician and according to standardized procedures outlined by in the *Psychiatric Mental Health*

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Eligible Provider and Scope of Services, continued

Practitioner Standardized Procedures Manual (Manual) and Practice Agreement.

In California, the PMHNP must rely on standardized procedures for authorization to perform overlapping medical functions (with the supervising physician), otherwise the PMHNP cannot perform beyond a Registered Nurse scope of practice.

In accordance with the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), the PMHNP is authorized to provide the following services:

- Assessment
- Plan Development
- Therapy
- Rehabilitation
- Collateral
- Medication Support Services
- Medication Education
- Day Treatment Intensive
- Day Treatment Rehabilitation
- Crisis Intervention
- Crisis Stabilization
- Adult Residential
- Adult Crisis Residential

Medicare Eligibility

Nurse Practitioner is a Medicare eligible discipline. Any PMHNP who works in a Medicare certified clinic, DBH or its contract agencies, is required to obtain a Medicare Personal Identification Number (PIN) to become a Medicare certified provider. Should a PMHNP working in a Medicare clinic fail to obtain Medicare certification, any service(s) provided to a client with Medicare/Medi-Cal insurance (also referred to a Medi-Medi) will be denied. Denial will include the Medi-Cal portion.

PMHNP Practitioner Standardized Procedures Manual and Practice Agreement

The *Manual and Practice Agreement* was created as a guide for DBH and its contract agencies to ensure compliance with regulated nursing practices, including required oversight. Contract agencies are required to utilize the Manual as well as this Information Notice (IN) for the discipline of PMHNPs.

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**PMHNP
Practitioner
Standardized
Procedures
Manual and
Practice
Agreement,
continued**

Contract agencies may contact DBH Compliance at DBHPMUquestions@dbh.sbcounty.gov or 909-388-0877 for a copy of the Manual.

Important Note: Regulations require the supervising physician and PMHNP each sign the Practice Agreement agreeing to maintain a collaborative and collegial relationship, to abide by and enforce the standardized guidelines and procedures referenced in the *Manual and Practice Agreement*.

**DBH Scope of
Practice and
Billing Guide**

This IN serves as official notice by the MHP to be utilized as a guide until updates are completed for the DBH Scope of Practice and Billing Guide.

References

California Business and Professions Code, Nursing Practice Act (NPA),
Section 2725
California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Division 13 – Medical Board of
California, Sections 1379, 1474 and 1480

Questions

For questions regarding this IN, please contact Quality Management Services at 909-386-8227.
