



COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO

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EFFECTIVE 7/94

STANDARD PRACTICE

APPROVED

DEPARTMENT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

SUBJECT TREATMENT OF DMH EMPLOYEES
BY DMH FACILITIES

James McReynolds, Director

(Revised 7/94)

I PURPOSE

To clarify the circumstances under which Department of Behavioral Health facilities may provide services to Behavioral Health employee or their families.

II POLICY

Due to the existing requirements for keeping detailed records of the services provided and the people who receive them, and the existence of electronic paper files, the Department is unable to ensure that the clinical record of one of its employees would be kept strictly confidential. It is possible that other employees (who may know the employee-client) or the employee-client himself, may have access to his record in the course of work. Since this fact has potential to adversely affect the client-therapist relationship and impair the course of therapy, employees of the Department of Behavioral Health seeking counseling services should be referred elsewhere. Riverside County Mental Health Department is one possible referral.

III PROCEDURES

Clinics should regularly screen all clients and refer department employees to therapists outside the department. (Also see policy on treating clients with HMO coverage, #2-4.13 and the Employee Assistance Program available in the County).

IV EXCEPTIONS

Services of an emergency nature (crisis and referral, Ward B admissions) are not subject to this policy. Also excluded are AB3632 services and any other services that may be solely available through the Department of Behavioral Health.

LM/amr