



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Mental Hygiene Administration

Spring Grove Hospital Center – Dix Building

55 Wade Avenue – Catonsville, Maryland 21228

Martin O'Malley, Governor – Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor – John M. Colmers, Secretary

Brian M. Hepburn, M.D., Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

To: PMHS Service Providers

From: Brian Hepburn, M.D.
Executive Director
Mental Hygiene Administration

Date: September 16, 2009

RE: Fiscal Year 10 Budget Reductions: Intensive Outpatient Services

Due to current budget cuts, the Mental Hygiene Administration (MHA) is reviewing all services within the public mental health system to assure that services provided are individualized and specific to the needs of the individual, are not duplicative, and have effective outcomes.

Services that appear to be utilized inconsistently across the state are intensive outpatient services that are paid as a bundle of services that include two group therapy sessions in one day. This intensive outpatient service package rate applies to Intensive Outpatient Services delivered by Outpatient Mental Health Centers (OMHC) and Partial Hospitalization Programs/Day Treatment programs.

As a result, MHA has decided to no longer provide reimbursement for individuals who are uninsured for intensive outpatient services. Individuals who are uninsured and in need outpatient mental health treatment services may receive services delivered by OMHC or individual practitioners following the established rules for payment in COMAR 10.21.25.

In addition, MHA has directed ValueOptions to closely review all requests for intensive outpatient services and partial hospitalization program services.

Effective October 1, 2009 MHA will no longer provide reimbursement for intensive outpatient services for uninsured individuals. Providers will be reimbursed for uninsured individuals with current authorization spans for this service if the authorization span is beyond the October 1, 2009 deadline.

Thank you.