



PROVIDER ALERT

July 19, 2010

Clarification: RTC Authorization Spans

Concurrent RTC requests for authorization are generally approved in 60 day increments, based on the clinical information available at the time of the review.

If an individual does not meet Medical Necessity Criteria at the time of the review, ValueOptions® Maryland may issue a denial.

It is not a requirement that an RTC receive a 60 day “warning” prior to a denial.

ValueOptions® Maryland may authorize additional days for an individual who has already stabilized only if there is absolutely no community placement available and it is clearly documented that the RTC has aggressively pursued placement.

In situations when it is clear that an individual has significantly improved but is still not ready for discharge at the time of the review, ValueOptions® Maryland generally authorizes up to 60 additional days and advises the RTC that, unless there is unexpected deterioration in the individual’s condition, we expect the discharge to occur during the authorized time span. Should the individual still meet MNC at the end of whatever time span was authorized, another request can be submitted.

Our ValueOptions® Maryland clinicians look forward to working with the RTCs to meet the overall average length of stay of no more than six months, pursuant to the MHA goals for residential treatment.