



PROVIDER ALERT

August 17, 2010

PSYCHIATRIC CONSULTATION ON MEDICAL /SURGICAL INPATIENT UNITS

MHA has requested that ValueOptions® issue the following clarification regarding psychiatric consultation for consumers admitted to Medical/Surgical units:

- Consultations for consumers on Medical/Surgical Units in hospitals in the state of Maryland are reimbursable by the PMHS only to participating Medicaid psychiatrists and psychiatric nurses.
- The billing codes to be submitted on claims for both the initial and follow-up consultations are 99251 – 99255.
- The initial consultation does not require an authorization and may be billed for diagnoses not included on the PMHS Specialty Diagnoses list.
- Follow-up psychiatric services must be authorized. Although the service may be provided for diagnoses not included on the PMHS Specialty Diagnoses list, the ValueOptions® Maryland Care Manager will review the clinical data to determine if medical necessity and severity of illness criteria are met in order to authorize continued hospital consultation services.