



PROVIDER ALERT

November 5, 2010

Adult Inpatient Admissions

Effective Immediately

Adult Medicaid Consumers: In order to collect the federal matching funds for adult, Medicaid, inpatient admissions, MHA directs providers to make every attempt to admit these consumers to psychiatry units in general hospitals.

When requesting an authorization for an adult, inpatient admission, the ValueOptions® Maryland Care Manager will require the names of two general hospitals refusing the admission, and the names of the individuals refusing the admission, prior to considering authorization to a private, free-standing psychiatric hospital.

Uninsured Consumers: The State may consider purchase care for a limited number of consumers in a private psychiatric hospital for adult, uninsured consumers requiring a psychiatric admission, **only** 1) when the request is made by an Emergency Department in a hospital that does not have a psychiatric unit and 2) when all other possibilities of admission to a general hospital psychiatry unit have been exhausted.

If a hospital with a psychiatry unit cannot immediately admit an uninsured individual, arrangements for admission with another general hospital, preferably in the same region, must be attempted. Only Emergency Departments in general hospitals without psychiatric units may call ValueOptions® Maryland for authorization requests for possible admissions to private, psychiatric hospitals.

When an alternative to hospital level of care is clinically indicated for uninsured individuals from the following jurisdictions, please contact the hospital diversion programs below:

Baltimore City – 410-433-5175
Montgomery County – 240-777-4000
Anne Arundel County- 410-768-5522

For individuals residing in other counties or for individuals with MA, contact the local core service agency, who may provide information on available resources when admission is not clinically indicated.