



STATE OF MARYLAND

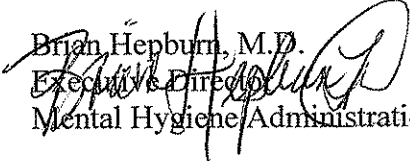
DHMH

**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**

TO: Providers approved as Day Treatment Services / Partial Hospitalization Programs

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

DATE: November 5, 2010

RE: Minimum Service Requirements for Partial Hospitalization Program (PHP/Day Treatment (DT))

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This memorandum reminds providers of the purpose and service requirements when requesting payment from the public mental health system (PMHS) for hospital based or freestanding PHP/DT programs.

Partial Hospitalization program (PHP) services, also known as day treatment (DT) services, are an alternative to hospital/residential treatment center level of care. The service is an intensive short term intervention designed to ameliorate acute psychiatric symptoms. Individuals must have a clinical need that warrants this level of intensive treatment. MHA has directed ValueOptions to closely review and monitor this service.

In order to be paid for a half of day of PHP or DT services, including therapeutic interventions, the program must provide a minimum of four hours per day of services. In order to be paid for a full day of PHP or DT, the program must provide a minimum of 6 ½ hours of direct services. Direct services exclude transportation and other non face to face interventions such as on behalf of the service recipient. These requirements are found in COMAR 10.09.06 Medicaid Hospital Services and COMAR 10.21.02 Psychiatric Day Treatment Services for freestanding and hospital based services.

When the PHP bills the PMHS for a full day of service, it is certifying that it has provided a minimum of 6 ½ hours of direct services. When the PHP bills the PMHS for a half day of service or intensive outpatient under a PHP/DT, it is certifying that it has provided a minimum of 4 hours of direct services.

PHP/DT programs may bill physician services separately since physician services are not included in the rate.

If you have any questions please contact Lissa Abrams, Deputy Director at abramsl@dhhm.state.md.us. Thank you.

CC: MHA Management Committee
CSA Directors
Herb Cromwell
Mary Mastrandrea