



## **PROVIDER ALERT**

**December 9, 2010**

### **Backdated Authorization Requests**

#### **Update**

DHMH/MHA Clarification memo of 3/2/2009

MHA has instructed ValueOptions® Maryland to remind PMHS providers that all services, except emergency care, require preauthorization per COMAR 10.09.70, 10.21.17 and 10.21.25.

The following services are considered emergencies by the MHA. Therefore, authorization may be requested after the service is provided within the time frames indicated for each service:

1. Social Worker evaluations in an Emergency Department – the authorization must be requested by the next business day.
2. Unanticipated extended visits with a consumer in crisis – if this occurs after normal business hours, the authorization may be requested the next business day.
3. Out of State non-Maryland Medicaid Participating Providers – services will be reviewed for Medical Necessity Criteria upon assignment of a Maryland Medicaid provider number, and authorizations for approved services may be backdated.
4. BCRI/BCARS – These provider organizations may request authorizations one business day after the service has been initiated
5. After hour crisis services– The authorization may be requested up to one business day after the service has been provided.
6. Authorization for all emergency admissions to an inpatient unit should be requested at the time of admission, but no later than 24 hours following admission.

Authorizations for consumers, with backdated Medicaid eligibility, may be backdated, but may be subject to Medical Necessity review, based on the type of service provided.

**Please note:** Although DHMH Provider Enrollment backdates provider participation to the date of the application, services provided prior to the assignment date of the provider Medicaid Number are not reimbursable by the PMHS.



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