



## **PROVIDER ALERT**

### **DETOXIFICATION SERVICES**

**MARCH 16, 2012**

MHA reminds all providers that consumers needing substance abuse detoxification or treatment for severe intoxication should be admitted to a substance abuse detoxification/treatment program: IOP, PHP, or ambulatory detoxification. If medical necessity indicates need for inpatient treatment, the consumer should be admitted to a medical unit.

For those individuals with dual diagnoses experiencing acute symptoms of their psychiatric illness which cannot be treated on an outpatient basis and causing them to be a danger to themselves or others, admission to a psychiatry unit will be authorized for as long as the State of Maryland Public Mental Health System's Medical Necessity Criteria for Acute Mental Health Inpatient are met.

If the individual requires ongoing detoxification and/or substance abuse treatment when the psychiatric symptoms no longer pose an imminent risk, providers are expected to arrange a transfer of the consumer to the appropriate level of substance abuse treatment.