



PROVIDER ALERT

SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER—OUTCOME MEASUREMENT SYSTEM (OMS) AUTHORIZATIONS

JANUARY 13, 2015

In order to ensure consumers receive necessary services, ValueOptions changed the authorization parameters for substance use disorder (SUD) for Provider Type 50, Level 1 providers. During the trainings ValueOptions conducted prior to “go-live,” the SUD OMS authorization parameters were set up similar to the mental health parameters to allow for two (2) initial visits to provide an assessment and the completion of the OMS questionnaire. Upon completion of this, the concurrent review period would allow for 75 additional visits, commonly referred to as an “OMS bundle,” within the next six (6) months.

For SUD individual therapy (H0004), the billing/claims units are based on 15 minute increments, not visits. For SUD group therapy (H0005), the billing/claims units are based on visits (60—90 minute sessions). The ValueOptions claims system reduces approved authorization services by the billed unit; therefore, a two (2) “visit” initial OMS authorization would be used up by two 15-minute units of an individual therapy session. To remedy this situation, ValueOptions increased the amount of units allowed for these OMS services. Providers will now see twelve (12) units allowed for the initial OMS authorization. This equates to two 90 minute individual sessions (six 15 minute units times 2). These initial 12 units should be used only for an assessment and completion of the OMS questionnaire.

Once the questionnaire is complete, an OMS “bundle” of authorizations will be approved. ValueOptions reviewed the 75 “visits” allowed for mental health providers and determined that a substance use disorder provider can use 300 units for these 75 “visits”. This would be a



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combination of individual therapy, which is measured in 15 minute units, and group therapy sessions, which are counted as visits, and as determined to be medically necessary based on the consumer's needs.

We apologize for any confusion. These steps will ensure consumers get the necessary services they require and providers get paid for the services they are rendering.

If you have any questions, please send an email to marylandproviderrelations@valueoptions.com .