



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
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CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

ELIZABETH CONNOLLY
Acting Commissioner

To: State Regulated Health Insurance Carriers
State Health Benefits Program
School Employees' Health Benefits Program

From: Elizabeth , Acting Commissioner

Date: May 12, 2017

Re: P.L. 2017, c.28 - Designation of Clinical Review Tool for Medical Necessity Review

On February 15, 2017, P.L. 2017, c.28, was signed into law by Governor Chris Christie. In pertinent part, the law requires the Commissioner of the Department of Human Services ("DHS"), in consultation with the Commissioner of the Department of Health ("DOH"), to designate an evidence-based and peer-reviewed clinical review tool for state regulated insurance carriers, the State Health Benefits Program and the School Employees' Health Benefits Program to determine the medical necessity of substance use disorder ("SUD") treatment.

Accordingly, the DHS, in consultation with the DOH, has identified criteria set by the American Society of Addiction Medicine ("ASAM") to serve as the clinical guidelines. In addition, the Level of Care Index, or any similar tool that has fidelity to the ASAM criteria, shall be utilized for clinical review.

The DHS is formalizing these designations through the rulemaking process with an expectation that a Notice of Proposal will be published on or about June 5, 2017, in the New Jersey Register.

Any questions regarding this memorandum should be directed to the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services, John J. White, at (609)292-7233.

EC:03

c: Valerie L. Mielke, Asst. Commissioner, DMHAS
Robert Eilers, MD
John J. White
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