

MEDICAID SERVICES MANUAL
TRANSMITTAL LETTER

July 30, 2019

TO: CUSTODIANS OF MEDICAID SERVICES MANUAL

FROM: TAMMY MOFFITT, CHIEF OF OPERATIONS

SUBJECT: MEDICAID SERVICES MANUAL CHANGES
CHAPTER 400 – MENTAL HEALTH AND ALCOHOL/SUBSTANCE
ABUSE SERVICES

BACKGROUND AND EXPLANATION

Revisions to Medicaid Services Manual (MSM) Chapter 400 – Mental Health and Alcohol/Substance Abuse Services are being proposed to align with the intent of Senate Bill (SB) 162 from the 2017 Legislative Session that revises the provisions relating to psychological assistants, psychological interns and psychological trainees. SB162 allows for assistants, interns and trainees to render services under the supervision of a designated Licensed Psychological Supervisor as identified in the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) and the Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 641. This will expand the provider qualifications and allow these three qualifications to enroll independently.

Additionally, the proposed policy change will allow assistants, interns and trainees to enroll under the Psychologist provider type (PT) – (PT 26) and will remove them from under the current structure of the Behavioral Health Community Network (BHCN) – (PT 14). This will allow for appropriate supervision as identified through the Board of Psychological Examiners.

Throughout the chapter, grammar, punctuation and capitalization changes were made, duplications removed, acronyms used and standardized, and language reworded for clarity. Renumbering and re-arranging of sections was necessary.

Entities Financially Affected: Hospital Inpatient – (PT 10), Hospital Outpatient – (PT 11), Psychiatric Inpatient Hospital – (PT 13), Behavioral Health Outpatient Services – (PT 14), Specialty Clinics – (PT 17), Psychologists – (PT 26).

Financial Impact on Local Government: Unknown at this time.

These changes are effective July 31, 2019.

MATERIAL TRANSMITTED

CL 32773
MSM CH 400 – MENTAL HEALTH AND
ALCOHOL/SUBSTANCE ABUSE
SERVICES

MATERIAL SUPERSEDED

MTL 03/17
MSM CH 400 – MENTAL HEALTH AND
ALCOHOL/SUBSTANCE ABUSE
SERVICES

Manual Section	Section Title	Background and Explanation of Policy Changes, Clarifications and Updates
403.2A(2)	SUPERVISION STANDARDS	<p>Removed language for Psychological Assistants.</p> <p>Added clarifying language that Licensed Clinical Social Workers (LCSW), Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists (LMFT), Clinical Professional Counselors (CPC) may function as Clinical Supervisors.</p>
403.3(B)(4)	PROVIDER QUALIFICATIONS – OUTPATIENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES	<p>Removed language for Psychological Assistants and Psychological Interns.</p>
403.3(C)	PROVIDER QUALIFICATIONS – OUTPATIENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES	<p>Added language specific to Psychologists. This includes adding language for Psychological Assistant, Interns and trainees.</p>

DRAFT	MTL-03/17CL
DIVISION OF HEALTH CARE FINANCING AND POLICY	Section: 403
MEDICAID SERVICES MANUAL	Subject: POLICY

- a. Participate in the development and implementation of their individualized treatment plan and/or rehabilitation plan;
- b. Keep all scheduled appointments; and
- c. Inform their Medicaid providers of any changes to their Medicaid eligibility.

403.2A SUPERVISION STANDARDS

1. Medical Supervision – The documented oversight which determines the medical appropriateness of the mental health program and services covered in this chapter. Medical supervision must be documented at least annually and at all times when determined medically appropriate based on review of circumstance. Medical supervision includes the on-going evaluation and monitoring of the quality and effectiveness of the services provided and may be provided through on and offsite means of communication. Medical supervision may be secured through a current written agreement, job description or similar type of binding document. Behavioral Health Community Networks and all inpatient mental health services are required to have medical supervision.
2. Clinical Supervision – **Licensed Clinical Social Workers (LCSW), Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists (LMFT), Clinical Professional Counselors (CPC), and Qualified Mental Health Professionals (QMHPs)**, excluding Interns/~~Psychological Assistants~~, operating within the scope of their practice under state law, may function as Clinical Supervisors. Clinical Supervisors must have the specific education, experience, training, credentials and licensure to coordinate and oversee an array of mental and behavioral health services. Clinical Supervisors must assure that the mental and/or behavioral health services provided are medically necessary and clinically appropriate. Clinical Supervisors assume professional responsibility for the mental and/or behavioral health services provided. Clinical Supervisors can supervise **other LCSW, LMFT, CPC, QMHPs, Qualified Mental Health Associates (QMHA) and Qualified Behavioral Aides (QBA)**. Clinical Supervisors may also function as Direct Supervisors.

Individual RMH providers, who are **LCSW, LMFT, CPC, and QMHPs**, excluding Interns/~~Psychological Assistants~~, may function as Clinical Supervisors over RMH services. However, Independent RMH providers, who are QMHPs, may not function as Clinical Supervisors over Outpatient Mental Health assessments or therapies. Clinical Supervisors must assure the following:

- a. An up to date (within 30 days) case record is maintained on the recipient;
- b. A comprehensive mental and/or behavioral health assessment and diagnosis is accomplished prior to providing mental and/or behavioral health services (with the

	MTL 19/18
DIVISION OF HEALTH CARE FINANCING AND POLICY	Section: 403
MEDICAID SERVICES MANUAL	Subject: POLICY

treatment goals and objectives as documented in the Treatment Plan. The discharge summary documentation must include the reason for discharge, current intensity of needs level and recommendations for further treatment.

- a. Discharge summaries are to be completed no later than 30 calendar days following a planned discharge and 45 calendar days following an unplanned discharge.
- b. In the case of a recipient's transfer to another program, a verbal summary must be given by the current health professional at the time of transition and followed with a written summary within seven calendar days of the transfer. This summary will be provided with the consent from the recipient or the recipient's legal representative.

403.3 PROVIDER QUALIFICATIONS – OUTPATIENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

A. QMHA - A person who meets the following documented minimum qualifications:

1. Licensure as a RN in the State of Nevada or holds a Bachelor's Degree from an accredited college or university in a human, social services or behavioral field with additional understanding of RMH treatment services and case file documentation requirements; or
2. Holds an associate's degree from an accredited college or university in a human, social services or behavioral field with additional understanding of RMH treatment services, and case file documentation and has four years of relevant professional experience of providing direct services to individuals with mental health disorders; or
3. An equivalent combination of education and experience as listed in Section 403.3.A.1-2 above; and
4. Whose education and experience demonstrate the competency under clinical supervision to:
 - a. Direct and provide professional therapeutic interventions within the scope of their practice and limits of their expertise;
 - b. Identify presenting problem(s);
 - c. Participate in treatment plan development and implementation;
 - d. Coordinate treatment;

DRAFT	MTL-03/17CL
DIVISION OF HEALTH CARE FINANCING AND POLICY	Section: 403
MEDICAID SERVICES MANUAL	Subject: POLICY

- e. Provide parenting skills training;
 - f. Facilitate discharge plans; and
 - g. Effectively provide verbal and written communication on behalf of the recipient to all involved parties.
5. Has a Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) background check in accordance with the Qualified Behavioral Aides (QBA) provider qualifications listed under Section 403.6A.
- B. Qualified Mental Health Professional (QMHP) - A Physician, Physician's Assistant or a person who meets the definition of a QMHA and also meets the following documented minimum qualifications:
- 1. Holds any of the following educational degrees and licensure:
 - a. Doctorate degree in psychology and license;
 - b. Bachelor's degree in nursing and Advanced Practitioners of Nursing (APN) (psychiatry);
 - c. Independent Nurse Practitioner; Graduate degree in social work and clinical license;
 - d. Graduate degree in counseling and licensed as a marriage and family therapist or clinical professional counselor; or
 - 2. Who is employed and determined by a state mental health agency to meet established class specification qualifications of a Mental Health Counselor; and
 - 3. Whose education and experience demonstrate the competency to: identify precipitating events, conduct a comprehensive mental health assessment, diagnose a mental or emotional disorder and document a current ICD diagnosis, determine intensity of service's needs, establish measurable goals, objectives and discharge criteria, write and supervise a treatment plan and provide direct therapeutic treatment within the scope and limits of their expertise.
 - 4. Interns/~~Psychological Assistants~~

Reimbursement for Interns/Psychological Assistants is based upon the rate of a QMHP, which includes the clinical and direct supervision of services by a licensed supervisor.

DRAFT	MTL-03/17CL
DIVISION OF HEALTH CARE FINANCING AND POLICY	Section: 403
MEDICAID SERVICES MANUAL	Subject: POLICY

Interns/~~Psychological Assistants~~ are excluded from functioning as a clinical supervisor.

The following are also considered QMHPs:

- a. Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) Interns meet the requirements under a program of internship and are licensed as an intern pursuant to the State of Nevada, Board of Examiners for Social Workers (Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 641B).
- b. Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT) and Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor Interns who meet the requirements under a program of internship and are licensed as an intern pursuant to the State of Nevada Board of Examiners for Marriage and Family Therapists and Clinical Professional Counselors.
- ~~e. Psychological Assistants who hold a doctorate degree in psychology, is registered with the State of Nevada Board of Psychological Examiners (NAC 641.151) and is an applicant for licensure as a Licensed Clinical Psychologist who has not yet completed the required supervised post-doctoral experience approved by the Board.~~
- ~~d.c. Psychological Interns registered through the Psychological Board of Examiners defined in NAC 641.165. Interns must be supervised in accordance with state regulations and may only provide services within the scope of their licensure.~~

C. Licensed Psychologists – A person licensed through the Nevada Board of Psychological Examiners.

- 1. Psychologists licensed in Nevada through the Board of Psychological Examiners may supervise Psychological Assistants, Psychological Interns, and Psychological Trainees pursuant to NRS and NAC 461. A Supervising Psychologist, as defined by NRS and NAC 461, may bill on behalf of services rendered by those they are supervising within the scope of their practice and under the guidelines outlined by the Psychological Board of Examiners. Assistants, Interns and Trainees must be linked to their designated Supervisor.
- 2. Psychological Assistants registered through the Nevada Board of Psychological Examiners and has a designated licensed Psychologist through the Board of Psychological Examiners may render and their supervisor may bill for their services pursuant to NRS and NAC 461.

DRAFT	MTL-03/17CL
DIVISION OF HEALTH CARE FINANCING AND POLICY	Section: 403
MEDICAID SERVICES MANUAL	Subject: POLICY

3. Psychological Interns registered through the Nevada Board of Psychological Examiners and has a designated licensed Psychologist through the Board of Psychological Examiners may render and their supervisor may bill for their services pursuant to NRS and NAC 461.
4. Psychological Trainees registered through the Nevada Board of Psychological Examiners and has a designated licensed Psychologist through the Board of Psychological Examiners may render and their supervisor may bill for their services pursuant to NRS and NAC 461.

403.4 OUTPATIENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

These services include assessment and diagnosis, testing, basic medical and therapeutic services, crisis intervention, therapy, partial and intensive outpatient hospitalization, medication management and case management services. For case management services, refer to MSM Chapter 2500 for Non-SED and Non-SMI definitions, service requirements, service limitations, provider qualifications and documentation requirements.

- A. Assessments are covered for problem identification (diagnosis) and to establish measurable treatment goals and objectives by a QMHP or designated QMHA in the case of a Mental Health Screen.
 1. Mental Health Screen – A behavioral health screen to determine eligibility for admission to treatment program.
 2. Comprehensive Assessment – A comprehensive, evaluation of a recipient’s history and functioning which, combined with clinical judgment, is to include a covered, current ICD diagnosis and a summary of identified rehabilitative treatment needs. Health and Behavior Assessment – Used to identify the psychological, behavioral, emotional, cognitive and social factors important to the prevention, treatment or management of physical health needs. The focus of the assessment is not on the mental health needs, but on the biopsychosocial factors important to physical health needs and treatments. The focus of the intervention is to improve the recipient’s health and well-being utilizing cognitive, behavioral, social and/or psycho-physiological procedures designed to ameliorate specific disease related needs. This type of assessment is covered on an individual basis, family with the recipient present or family without the recipient present.
 3. Psychiatric Diagnostic Interview – Covered once per calendar year without prior authorization. If there is a substantial change in condition, subsequent assessments may be requested through a prior-authorization from the QIO-like vendor for Nevada Medicaid. A psychiatric diagnostic interview may consist of a clinical interview, a medical and mental history, a mental status examination, behavioral