



Minutes of Behavioral Health Hospital Engagement Forum

Virtual Meeting

Video conference: meet.google.com/bxe-cwag-tdo

Call-in number: (US) +1 219-802-5969

PIN: 792 789 742#

May 10, 2024, 10 - 11 A.M.

1. Call to Order

Jennifer Holcomb called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

2. Welcome and Introductions

Introductions to HCPF staff present at the meeting were done.

3. Discussion Topic 1- BH Crisis Services in Hospitals

Meghan Morrissey and Jennifer Holcomb facilitated the discussion on the support that hospitals need to provide BH crisis services in their facilities.

Clarification was provided on the mobile crisis response service and crisis services in a mobile place of service. The mobile crisis response is a very specific service and is prescriptive. CMS has specified that this response can't be paid for in a facility. Medicaid is able to pay for facility-based crisis responses just not the mobile crisis response service going into the hospitals.

A rural hospital noted a difficulty with having a licensed clinician available, particularly on evenings and weekends. There are not enough clinicians, especially those who are crisis service providers. Additionally, further assistance with the assessment and placement would be helpful.

It's wanted to have the integrated component for billing to have these facility-based crisis services. A hospital shared a parity concern with the billing process within the ED and inpatient. There are patients that come to the hospital with a physical crisis, but after evaluation the BH diagnosis is the cause and the diagnosis at discharge and so the BH service is what is reimbursed. A hospital shared that they aren't contracted for medical services and so all that is received is reimbursement for BH services. There is a concern in the ED and inpatient setting with billing for members who receive both BH and PH services.



There was a question about the impact of a new mental health law requirement regarding discharge follow-up, it's wanted to understand what is happening with the hospital discharge program and the new vendor for the 988 crisis line. There is no information to share regarding these changes but HCPF has been informed that the scope of the work will not change. It was noted that the Behavioral Health Administration has care coordination for hospitals that is available. A link to 988 Board Meetings was shared, which can be found [here](#).

There's been an issue with finding placement for young adults being discharged from hospitals or facilities. Additional support is needed for discharge planning for young adults. There is a need for early discharge planning as it should begin once a young adult goes in for care and continue until the patient is discharged.

4. Discussion Topic 2- Integrating Support Professionals

Jennifer Holcomb and Amy Austin facilitated this discussion about integrating support professionals (i.e., Community Health Workers, Qualified Behavioral Health Assistants and Peer Support Professionals).

A hospital shared that there are several positions within a hospital that provide support to individuals within an inpatient and ED setting, and are excited about the Qualified Behavioral Health Assistant. A decreased length of stay and other positive outcomes have been seen and can be shared. It was added that an ability for reimbursement for these positions will allow for a more diverse and broader scope of whole person care that is wanted.

It's wanted to have guidance from HCPF and the RAEs regarding how the contract and billing codes should be set up in the hospitals' systems. It's wanted to have a contact for how hospitals should be contracting with the RAEs to receive reimbursement and then how they should set up their billing so that they are reimbursed in different settings (i.e., inpatient ED and ambulatory). HCPF responded that the policies for guidance on hospital billing are still in process and under discussion.

5. Open Topics

Reasonable accommodations will be provided upon request for persons with disabilities. Please notify the Committee Coordinator at amy.luu@state.co.us or the 504/ADA Coordinator hcpf504ada@state.co.us at least one week prior to the meeting.

