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Executive Office of Health and Human Services
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www.mass.gov/eohhs

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF REGULATIONS

The Division of Medical Assistance (MassHealth) proposes to amend its regulations under the authority of M.G.L. c. 118E, §§ 7 and 12 and pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A. MassHealth describes the substance of the proposed actions as amendments to regulations found at 130 CMR 425.000: Psychiatric Inpatient Hospital Regulations. The proposed amendments simplify, clarify, and update requirements for the provision of psychiatric hospital inpatient services under the MassHealth program. Among other things, the proposed amendments clarify that psychiatric hospitals may be licensed or operated by the Department of Mental Health, and revise the definition of mental illness to match current practice. The proposed amendments also clarify provider enrollment requirements and covered services limitations for in-state and out-of-state providers, remove durational services limitations for psychiatric inpatient services, update credentialing standards for psychiatric nurses and the field of clinicians eligible to administer the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) tool in psychiatric inpatient hospitals. The proposed amendments also update outdated language to more accurately reflect MassHealth practices and simplify the program requirements and administration. It is anticipated that these amendments will not go into effect before December 30, 2016.

All persons desiring to submit data, views, or arguments concerning these proposed actions may submit them in writing to EOHHS, c/o D. Briggs, 100 Hancock Street, 6th Floor, Quincy, MA 02171, or e-mail them to masshealthpublicnotice@state.ma.us. E-mailed comments should contain the sender's name, mailing address, and organization or affiliation, if any. Comments will be accepted through 5:00 p.m. on October 28, 2016.

All persons desiring to review the current draft of the proposed actions may go to www.mass.gov/masshealth/proposedregs or request a copy in writing or in person from the MassHealth Publications Unit, 100 Hancock Street, 6th Floor, Quincy, MA 02171.

MassHealth may adopt a revised version of the proposed actions taking into account relevant comments and any other practical alternatives that come to MassHealth's attention.

October 7, 2016

