



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Office of Medicaid
One Ashburton Place
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www.mass.gov/eohhs

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF REGULATIONS

The Division proposes to amend its regulations under the authority of M.G.L. c. 118E, ss. 7 and 12 and pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A. The Division describes the substance of the proposed actions as amendments to regulations found at 130 CMR 434.000. The proposed amendments simplify, clarify, and update requirements for the provision of psychiatric hospital outpatient services under the MassHealth program. The proposed revisions clarify that psychiatric hospital facilities may be licensed or operated by the Department of Mental Health and update the definition of mental illness to match current practice. The proposed revisions also clarify provider enrollment requirements and covered services limitations for in-state and out-of-state providers, remove prior authorization requirements, update board certification standards for psychiatrists and credentialing standards for psychiatric nurses, and change psychiatric testing coverage to match current practice. In addition, the proposed revisions permit hospitals to provide outpatient individual, family, or group therapy on the same day. The revised regulations will more accurately reflect MassHealth practices and simplify the program requirements and administration.

It is anticipated that these amendments will not go into effect before September 23, 2016.

All persons desiring to submit data, views, or arguments concerning these proposed actions may submit them in writing to the Assistant Secretary for MassHealth, EOHHS, One Ashburton Place, Room 1109, Boston, Massachusetts 02108, 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 Friday, July 8, 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, Massachusetts 02171.

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

Friday, June 17, 2016

