

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Department of Mental Health
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MEMORANDUM

(617) 626-8000
www.mass.gov/dmh

To: DMH Licensed Facilities & Interested Parties

From: Janet Ross, RN, MS 
Assistant Commissioner for Clinical and Professional Services / Director of Licensing

Date: March 1, 2019 (Revised for contact info only – August 28, 2023)

Re: DMH Licensing Bulletin #19-01 – Clinical Competencies/ Operational Standards for
DMH Licensed Inpatient Facilities

Attached please find DMH Licensing Bulletin #19-01 – Clinical Competencies/ Operational Standards for DMH Licensed Inpatient Facilities. This bulletin outlines sub regulatory guidelines to inform practice and to provide a baseline for DMH licensing reviews of individual facility's compliance with licensing regulations for the provision of treatment to the following specialty populations:

- Co-occurring Medical Conditions: Psychiatric units within General Hospitals
- Co-occurring Medical Conditions: Free-standing Psychiatric Units/ Facilities
- Severe Behavior/ Assault Risk
- Co-occurring Autism Spectrum Disorders or Other Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (ASD/ ID/ DD)
- Co-occurring Substance Use Disorders (SUD)

The DMH Licensing Division will begin referring to the attached competencies/standards in its licensing reviews beginning May 1, 2019.

Questions regarding these new competencies/ standards should be directed to the DMH Licensing Division at 617-626-8117 or Teresa.J.Reynolds@mass.gov