



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Office of Medicaid
www.mass.gov/masshealth



MassHealth
Transmittal Letter SUD-19
December 2017

TO: Substance Use Disorder Treatment Providers Participating in MassHealth
FROM: Daniel Tsai, Assistant Secretary for MassHealth
RE: *Substance Use Disorder Treatment Providers Manual* (Revised regulations)

MassHealth has updated the *Substance Use Disorder Treatment Manual* to add transitional support services (TSS) and residential rehabilitation services (RRS) to the regulation in accordance with MassHealth's Section 1115 Demonstration (approved November 4, 2016), and to remove certain treatment limits, including limits on case consultation, special services for pregnant members, and counseling services.

These regulations are effective December 29, 2017.

MassHealth Website

This transmittal letter and attached pages are available on the MassHealth website at www.mass.gov/masshealth.

Questions

If you have any questions about the information in this transmittal letter, please contact the MassHealth Customer Service Center at 1-800-841-2900, email your inquiry to providersupport@mahealth.net, or fax your inquiry to 617-988-8974.

NEW MATERIAL

(The pages listed here contain new or revised language.)

Substance Use Disorder Treatment Manual

Pages 4-1 through 4-10

OBSOLETE MATERIAL

(The pages listed here are no longer in effect.)

Substance Use Disorder Treatment Manual

Pages 4-1 through 4-10 — transmitted by Transmittal Letter SUD-18

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418.401: Introduction

130 CMR 418.000 establishes the requirements for the treatment of substance use disorders provided by public and private substance use disorder treatment programs reimbursable under MassHealth.

418.402: Definitions

The following terms used in 130 CMR 418.000 shall have the meanings given in 130 CMR 418.402 unless the context clearly requires a different meaning. The reimbursability of services defined in 130 CMR 418.400 is not determined by these definitions, but by the application of 130 CMR 418.000 and in 130 CMR 450.000: *Administrative and Billing Regulations*.

Acupuncture Detoxification – the insertion of metal needles through the skin at certain points on the body, with or without the use of herbs, with or without the application of an electric current, and with or without the application of heat to the needles, skin, or both, for individuals experiencing the dysfunctional effects of the use of alcohol and/or other drugs, whose primary need is detoxification to manage withdrawal symptoms, and thereafter, support services for the maintenance of sobriety.

Acute Inpatient Substance Use Disorder Treatment Services – short-term medical detoxification and stabilization treatment provided by an inpatient unit or facility, either freestanding or hospital-based, licensed as an acute care inpatient substance abuse detoxification treatment services by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health under its regulations at 105 CMR 164.000: *Licensure of Substance Abuse Treatment Programs*. These services are delivered in a three-tiered system defined under 105 CMR 164.133(A)(1): *Determination of Level of Care* and must conform with all applicable sections of 105 CMR 164.000: *Licensure of Substance Abuse Treatment Programs*.

American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) – a professional society in the field of addiction medicine that sets standards, guidelines, and performance measures for the delivery of addiction treatment which includes a continuum of five basic levels of care from Level 0.5 (early intervention) to Level 4.0 (medically managed intensive inpatient treatment).

Case Consultation – a preplanned meeting of at least one-half hour's duration between the substance use disorder treatment provider and other providers of treatment concerning a member who receives substance use disorder treatment that meets at least one of the following purposes:

- (1) identifying and planning for additional services;
- (2) coordinating a treatment plan with other providers involved in the member's care;
- (3) reviewing the member's progress; or
- (4) revising the treatment plan as required.

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Couple Counseling – rehabilitative counseling provided to a couple whose primary complaint is disruption of their relationship or family due to substance use disorder.

Enhanced Acute Inpatient Substance Use Disorder Treatment Services – a program to detoxify pregnant women from alcohol or drugs that addresses the needs of pregnancy and that includes other medical and support components to ensure quality of both substance use disorder treatment and obstetrical care.

Family Counseling – rehabilitative counseling of more than one member of a family at the same time in the same session, where the primary complaint is disruption of the family due to substance use disorder.

Group Counseling – rehabilitative counseling of a group of individuals, most of whom are not related by blood, marriage, or legal guardianship, having a primary complaint that is associated with substance use disorder.

Individual Counseling – rehabilitative counseling provided to an individual whose primary complaint is substance use disorder.

Motivational and Supportive Services – counseling as a component of acupuncture detoxification that:

- (1) encourages members to remain in acupuncture detoxification treatment;
- (2) assists members to obtain necessary medical and social services;
- (3) includes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) risk assessment and education services; and
- (4) motivates members to participate in ongoing outpatient substance use disorder treatment.

Nurse Practitioner – an individual licensed by the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing in accordance with M.G.L. c. 112, s. 80B, and knowledgeable in the field of substance addiction.

Opioid Treatment Services Center – a program that provides opioid treatment services. Opioid treatment services centers must be federally certified by the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration as an opioid treatment program and must be licensed as opioid treatment programs by the Department of Public Health under its regulations at 105 CMR 164.000: *Licensure of Substance Abuse Treatment Programs*. Opioid Treatment Services Centers must conform to the federal opioid treatment standards set forth in 42 CFR 8.12.

Opioid Treatment Services – supervised assessment and treatment of an individual, using FDA approved medications (including methadone, buprenorphine, buprenorphine/naloxone, and naltrexone), along with a comprehensive range of medical and rehabilitative services, when clinically necessary, to alleviate the adverse medical, psychological or physical effects incident to opiate addiction. This term encompasses detoxification treatment and maintenance treatment.

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Physician Assistant – an individual who is registered by the Board of Registration of Physician Assistants in accordance with M.G.L. c. 112, s. 9F, and knowledgeable in the field of substance addiction.

Registered Nurse – an individual licensed by the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing in accordance with M.G.L. c. 112, s. 74, and knowledgeable in the field of substance addiction.

Residential Rehabilitation Services (RRS) – active treatment and reassessment services provided in a 24-hour community-based setting to adults, adults with their families, or adolescents with a substance use disorder.

Substance Use Disorder Outpatient Counseling Service – an outpatient counseling service that is a rehabilitative treatment service for individuals and their families experiencing the effects of the use of substances.

Transitional Support Services (TSS) – active treatment and reassessment services provided on a short-term basis in a 24-hour community-based setting to individuals with a substance use disorder.

418.403: Eligible Members

- (A) (1) MassHealth Members. The MassHealth agency pays for substance use disorder treatment services only when provided to eligible MassHealth members, subject to the restrictions and limitations described in MassHealth regulations. Covered services for each MassHealth coverage type are set forth in 130 CMR 450.105: *Coverage Types*.
- (2) Members who receive services through the Emergency Aid to the Elderly, Disabled and Children Program. Covered services for recipients of the Emergency Aid to the Elderly, Disabled and Children Program, are set forth in 130 CMR 450.106: *Emergency Aid to the Elderly, Disabled and Children Program*.
- (3) Pregnant Members — For information on the eligibility period for pregnant members, see 130 CMR 418.406(E).
- (B) For information on verifying member eligibility and coverage type, see 130 CMR 450.107: *Eligible Members and the MassHealth Card*.
- (C) For limitations on mental health and substance use disorder services provided to members enrolled with the MassHealth behavioral health contractor, see 130 CMR 450.124: *Behavioral Health Services*.

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418.404: Provider Eligibility

Payment for services described in 130 CMR 418.000 will be made only to providers of substance use disorder treatment services who are participating in MassHealth on the date of service. The eligibility requirements for providers of substance use disorder treatment services are as follows.

- (A) In State. The following requirements apply when the provider is located in Massachusetts.
- (1) Opioid Treatment Services. A provider who furnishes opioid treatment services must be licensed by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health under its regulations at 105 CMR 164.000: *Licensure of Substance Abuse Treatment Programs*.
 - (2) Acute Inpatient Substance Use Disorder Treatment Services. A provider who furnishes acute inpatient substance use disorder treatment services must be licensed or approved (*i.e.*, have a certificate of approval), as a provider of acute inpatient substance abuse treatment services by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health pursuant to its regulations at 105 CMR 164.000: *Licensure of Substance Abuse Treatment Programs*.
 - (3) Residential Rehabilitation Services (RRS). A provider who furnishes residential rehabilitation services must be licensed to provide RRS by the Department of Public Health pursuant to its regulations at 105 CMR 164.000: *Licensure of Substance Abuse Treatment Programs*.
 - (4) Transitional Support Services (TSS). A provider who furnishes transitional support services must be licensed to provide TSS by the Department of Public Health pursuant to its regulations at 105 CMR 164.000: *Licensure of Substance Abuse Treatment Programs*.
 - (5) Substance Use Disorder Outpatient Counseling Services. A provider who furnishes substance use disorder outpatient counseling services must be licensed by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health to provide such services under its regulations at 105 CMR 164.000: *Licensure of Substance Abuse Treatment Programs*. These services include counseling services.
 - (6) Acupuncture Detoxification. A provider of acupuncture detoxification must be licensed by the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine and the program in which the acupuncture detoxification is provided must be licensed by the Department of Public Health in accordance with 105 CMR 164.000: *Licensure of Substance Abuse Treatment Programs*.

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(B) Out-of-state. To participate in MassHealth, an out-of-state substance use disorder treatment program must obtain a MassHealth provider number and meet the following criteria:

- (1) the program must be licensed to provide opioid treatment services, acute inpatient substance use disorder treatment services, transitional support services, residential rehabilitation services, or substance use disorder outpatient counseling services by the appropriate state agency under whose jurisdiction it operates;
- (2) a program that provides opioid treatment services must be certified as a federal opioid treatment program;
- (3) the program must participate in its own state's Medicaid program or its equivalent;
- (4) the program must have a rate of reimbursement established by the appropriate rate setting regulatory body of its state; and
- (5) the program must be one that members in a particular locality use for medical services as a general practice.

418.405: Scope of Services

(A) The MassHealth agency pays only for the following services furnished by substance use disorder treatment programs, in accordance with the regulations of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health at 105 CMR 164.000: *Licensure of Substance Abuse Treatment Programs*.

- (1) the following services provided by freestanding opioid treatment service centers:
 - (a) the administration and dispensing of FDA-approved medications for the treatment of opioid use disorders; and
 - (b) individual, group, and family/couple counseling;
- (2) services provided by acute inpatient substance use disorders treatment services providers for the treatment of substance use disorders;
- (3) services provided by residential rehabilitation services providers must be consistent with ASAM Level 3.1: Clinically managed low intensity residential services, and Department of Public Health regulation 105 CMR 164.423: *Program Components* except for 105 CMR 164.423(B): *Transitional Support Services*. Additionally, services provided by residential rehabilitation services providers must be consistent with, as appropriate:
 - (a) For adults – 105 CMR 164.420: *Residential Rehabilitation for Adults*;
 - (b) For adults with their families – 105 CMR 164.430: *Residential Rehabilitation for Adults with Their Families*; or
 - (c) For adolescents – 105 CMR 164.440: *Residential Rehabilitation for Adolescents*.
- (4) services provided by transitional support services providers must be consistent with ASAM Level 3.1: Clinically managed low intensity residential services, and 105 CMR 164.423: *Program Components* including 105 CMR 164.423(B): *Transitional Support Services*.
- (5) the following substance use disorder outpatient counseling services:
 - (a) individual, group, and family/couple counseling;
 - (b) case consultation; and
 - (c) acupuncture detoxification, which includes acupuncture treatments and motivational and supportive services; and

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- (6) the following special substance use disorder treatment services for pregnant members:
- (a) intensive outpatient program services;
 - (b) day treatment;
 - (c) enhanced acute inpatient substance use disorder treatment services. Enhanced acute inpatient substance use disorder services are provided at acute inpatient substance use disorder treatment programs to qualified members and involve clinically appropriate medical protocols that include both medical and support components to ensure the quality of substance use disorder treatment and obstetrical care. Providers of enhanced acute inpatient substance use disorder treatment services for pregnant members must have on staff and on-site an obstetric/gynecological registered nurse who will develop and implement a substance use disorder treatment plan. Pregnant members may receive the following enhanced acute inpatient substance use disorder treatment services:
 - 1. clinically appropriate medical protocols for withdrawal from alcohol and other drugs;
 - 2. clinical counseling and rehabilitation with a goal of long-term recovery;
 - 3. obstetric assessment and management, including both arrangements for prenatal examinations during the detoxification and emergency obstetric and medical backup; and
 - 4. an aftercare treatment plan, including post-detoxification referrals.
 - (d) Case management. Case management services must be provided with the intensive outpatient program and day treatment program described in this section. Case management services coordinate the substance use disorder treatment for pregnant members with the other medical and community services that are critical to the needs of the member. Case management services must include:
 - 1. substance use disorder treatment plans and the coordination of treatment service delivery;
 - 2. the coordination of prenatal and postpartum care, including the provision of intensive follow-up, which includes assistance in the following:
 - a. obtaining a prenatal care provider; and
 - b. scheduling initial appointments and following up to ensure that ongoing prenatal care is obtained;
 - 3. coordination with community agencies to enhance access to support services for the member during and after treatment. The arrangements must include the following services, as appropriate:
 - a. coordination with the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) organization;
 - b. family planning services;
 - c. services to assist with domestic violence issues;
 - d. trauma services;
 - e. parenting support services;
 - f. coordination with the Massachusetts Department of Children and Family Services, involving its case plan where applicable;

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- g. coordination with other state agencies, including the local Department of Transitional Assistance office; and
- h. other services as needed, including child care, housing, mental health counseling, transportation, legal aid, and HIV-related services, including counseling and testing; and
- 4. aftercare treatment planning, including continuing substance use disorder treatment as needed, continuing health care for mother and infant, coordination with self-help groups, and coordination with continuing prenatal care.

(B) The MassHealth agency pays for all medically necessary substance use disorder treatment services for EPSDT-eligible members in accordance with 130 CMR 450.140: *Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) Services: Introduction*, without regard to service limitations described in 130 CMR 418.406, and with prior authorization.

418.406: Service Limitations

(A) Opioid Treatment Services.

- (1) Payment for oral opioid agonist medication is limited to one dose per member per day. Payment for providing a take-home supply is limited to the amounts and frequency set forth in 105 CMR 164.304: *Additional Service Requirements for Opioid Maintenance*.
- (2) Payment for opioid partial agonist medication, whether a single-agent or in combination with naloxone, is limited to one dose per member per day. Payment for a take-home supply is limited to one month;
- (3) Payment for administering injectable opioid antagonist medication is limited to one dose per member per month; and
- (4) Payment for drug screens for members receiving opioid antagonist medication is limited to the amounts and frequency set forth in 105 CMR 164.304(B): *Drug Screening*.

(B) Acute Inpatient Substance Use Disorder Treatment Services. The MassHealth agency will pay for acute inpatient substance use disorder treatment services delivered in conformance with all applicable sections of 105 CMR 164.000: *Licensure of Substance Abuse Treatment Programs*.

(C) Residential Rehabilitative Services. The MassHealth agency will pay for the first 90 days of residential rehabilitation services per episode of care. Room and board is not a component of service and will not be reimbursed by the MassHealth agency.

(D) Substance Use Disorder Outpatient Case Consultation.

- (1) The MassHealth agency will pay a provider only for case consultation that lasts at least 30 minutes. Payment is limited to a maximum of one hour per session.

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(2) The MassHealth agency will pay for case consultation only when telephone contact, written communication, and other nonreimbursable forms of communication clearly will not suffice. Such circumstances must be documented in the member's record. Such circumstances are limited to situations in which the member (or family members) is actively involved in treatment or management programs with both the substance use disorder treatment provider and the other provider and where a lack of face-to-face communication would impede a coordinated treatment program.

(3) The MassHealth agency will not pay for court testimony.

(4) Acupuncture Detoxification.

(a) The MassHealth agency will pay for outpatient acupuncture detoxification services, which may include acupuncture treatments and motivational and supportive services. A provider may not bill separately for these components.

(b) Acupuncture treatments must be performed in a substance use disorder outpatient facility licensed by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

(c) Payment for acupuncture detoxification sessions is limited to a maximum of six treatments per member per week for the first two weeks and a maximum of three treatments per member per week thereafter. Each session must last at least 45 minutes and no more than 60 minutes.

(d) All members seeking acupuncture detoxification services must be screened to ensure that acupuncture treatment is not medically contraindicated. If the screening determines that acupuncture treatment is medically contraindicated, the provider should assist the member in obtaining an alternative form of treatment. The screening may be performed by a physician assistant, a nurse practitioner, or a registered nurse. The member is appropriate for acupuncture detoxification services if the screening determines that the member:

1. has no history of seizures, delirium tremens, or other life-threatening withdrawal symptoms; and
2. is oriented to time, place, and person.

(E) Special Services for Pregnant Members.

(1) Eligibility Period. A substance use disorder treatment plan for a pregnant member may provide for no more than 10 consecutive months of service from the initiation of treatment. Services under this program may be initiated as soon as the pregnancy is clinically verified or at any month during the pregnancy. Eligibility for special services for pregnant members continues until the last day of the calendar month in which the 60-day postpartum period ends. A member may enter or reenter treatment up to the 30th day of the postpartum period. At the conclusion of this eligibility period, a member is eligible for all other substance use disorder treatment services described in 130 CMR 418.000 and in accordance with the service limitations stated in 130 CMR 418.406.

(2) Case Management. Case management may be claimed as a separate service only when provided with the intensive outpatient program. Payment for case management is included in the rate for day treatment services for pregnant members and may not be claimed separately when provided with day treatment.

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(3) Intensive Outpatient Program.

- (a) The intensive outpatient program must be provided in conjunction with case management services as described in 130 CMR 418.405(A)(6)(d).
- (b) The MassHealth agency will not pay for the following services while the member is receiving intensive outpatient program services:
1. opioid treatment services counseling;
 2. day treatment;
 3. acute inpatient substance use disorder treatment or enhanced acute inpatient substance use disorder treatment; or
 4. outpatient counseling.

(4) Day Treatment Program.

- (a) Case management services as described in 130 CMR 418.405(A)(6)(d) must be provided as a component of day treatment and are included in the day treatment rate (*see* 130 CMR 418.406(D)(2)(b));
- (b) The MassHealth agency will not pay for the following services while the member is receiving day treatment services:
1. opioid treatment services counseling;
 2. outpatient counseling;
 3. acute inpatient substance use disorder treatment or enhanced acute inpatient substance use disorder treatment; or
 4. intensive outpatient group counseling.

(5) Enhanced Acute Inpatient Substance Use Disorder Treatment Services. While the member is receiving enhanced acute inpatient substance use disorder treatment services, the MassHealth agency will not pay for any other substance use disorder treatment services. These services are reimbursable only if they are delivered in conformance with all applicable sections of 105 CMR 164.000: *Licensure of Substance Abuse Treatment Programs.*

418.407: In-state Providers: Maximum Allowable Fees

The Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services determines the maximum allowable fees for substance use disorder treatment services. Payment is always subject to the conditions, exclusions, and limitations set forth in 130 CMR 418.000. Reimbursement for a service shall be the lower of the following:

- (A) the maximum allowable fee listed in the applicable fee schedule; or
- (B) the program's usual and customary fee.

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418.408: Out-of-state Providers: Maximum Allowable Fees

Payment to a substance use disorder treatment program located out of state shall be in accordance with the applicable rate schedule of its state's Medicaid Program or its equivalent and is always subject to the applicable conditions, exclusions, and limitations set forth in 130 CMR 418.000.

418.409: Recordkeeping Requirements

The provider must maintain for each member a complete record of all physical examinations, laboratory tests, and treatments including drug and counseling therapies, whether provided directly or by referral. The record must contain a progress note for each counseling session, including treatment modality and duration. Each entry must be signed by the member's primary therapist and must include the therapist's professional discipline and the date of the counseling session. The provider must maintain on its premises either the original record or an alternative electronic format of the original record for each member in accordance with 105 CMR 164.000: *Licensure of Substance Abuse Treatment Programs*. Such records must meet federal and state recordkeeping requirements as set forth in 130 CMR 450.000: *Administrative and Billing Regulations* and 105 CMR 164.000.

REGULATORY AUTHORITY

130 CMR 418.000: M.G.L. c. 118E.