Behavioral Health Covered Services

A. Inpatient Services - 24-hour services, delivered in a licensed hospital setting, that provide clinical intervention for mental health or substance use diagnoses, or both.

1. Inpatient Mental Health Services - hospital services to evaluate and treat an acute psychiatric condition which 1) has a relatively sudden onset; 2) has a short, severe course; 3) poses a significant danger to self or others; or 4) has resulted in marked psychosocial dysfunction or grave mental disability.

2. Inpatient Substance Use Disorder Services (Level IV) - hospital services that provide a detoxification regimen of medically directed evaluation, care and treatment for psychoactive substance-abusing Covered Individuals in a medically managed setting.

3. Observation/Holding Beds - hospital services, for a period of up to 24 hours, in order to assess, stabilize, and identify appropriate resources for Covered Individuals.

4. Administratively Necessary Day (AND) Services - a day(s) of inpatient hospitalization provided to Covered Individuals when said Covered Individuals are clinically ready for discharge, but an appropriate setting is not available. Services shall include appropriate continuing clinical services.

B. Diversionary Services - those mental health and substance use disorder services that are provided as clinically appropriate alternatives to Behavioral Health Inpatient Services, or to support an Enrollee returning to the community following a 24-hour acute placement; or to provide intensive support to maintain functioning in the community. There are two categories of Diversionary Services, those provided in a 24-hour facility, and those which are provided in a non-24-hour setting or facility.

1. 24-Hour Diversionary Services:

   a. Community Crisis Stabilization – services provided as an alternative to hospitalization, including short-term psychiatric treatment in structured, community-based therapeutic environments. Community Crisis Stabilization provides continuous 24-hour observation and supervision for Covered Individuals who do not require Inpatient Services.

   b. Community-Based Acute Treatment for Children and Adolescents (CBAT) – mental health services provided in a staff-secure setting on a 24-hour basis, with sufficient clinical staffing to insure safety for the child or adolescent, while providing intensive therapeutic services including, but not limited to, daily medication monitoring; psychiatric assessment; nursing
availability; Specialing (as needed); individual, group and family therapy; case management; family assessment and consultation; discharge planning; and psychological testing, as needed. This service may be used as an alternative to or transition from Inpatient services.

c. **Acute Treatment Services (ATS) for Substance Use Disorders (Level III.7)** – 24-hour, seven days week, medically monitored addiction treatment services that provide evaluation and withdrawal management. Detoxification services are delivered by nursing and counseling staff under a physician-approved protocol and physician-monitored procedures and include: biopsychosocial assessment; individual and group counseling; psychoeducational groups; and discharge planning. Pregnant women receive specialized services to ensure substance use disorder treatment and obstetrical care. Covered Individuals with Co-occurring Disorders receive specialized services to ensure treatment for their co-occurring psychiatric conditions. These services may be provided in licensed freestanding or hospital-based programs.

d. **Clinical Support Services for Substance Use Disorders (Level III.5)** – 24-hour treatment services, which can be used independently or following Acute Treatment Services for substance use disorders, and including intensive education and counseling regarding the nature of addiction and its consequences; outreach to families and significant others; and aftercare planning for individuals beginning to engage in recovery from addiction. Covered Individuals with Co-Occurring Disorders receive coordination of transportation and referrals to mental health providers to ensure treatment for their co-occurring psychiatric conditions. Pregnant women receive coordination of their obstetrical care.

e. **Transitional Care Unit (TCU)** – A community based therapeutic program offering high levels of supervision, structure and intensity of service within an unlocked setting. The program serves children and adolescents, under age 19, who are in the custody of the Department of Children and Families (DCF), who have been determined to need group care or foster care and no longer meet the clinical criteria for continued stay at an acute level of care. The TCU offers comprehensive services, including but not limited to, a therapeutic milieu, psychiatry, aggressive case management, and multidisciplinary, multi-modal therapies.

2. **Non-24-Hour Diversionary Services**

a. **Community Support Program (CSP)** - an array of services delivered by a community-based, mobile, multi-disciplinary team of professionals and paraprofessionals. These programs provide essential services to Covered Individuals with a long standing history of a psychiatric or substance use disorder and to their families, or to Covered Individuals who are at varying...
degrees of increased medical risk, or to children/adolescents who have behavioral health issues challenging their optimal level of functioning in the home/community setting. Services include outreach and supportive services, delivered in a community setting, which will vary with respect to hours, type and intensity of services depending on the changing needs of the Enrollee.

b. **Partial Hospitalization (PHP)** - an alternative to Inpatient Mental Health Services, PHP services offer short-term day mental health programming available seven days per week. These services consist of therapeutically intensive acute treatment within a stable therapeutic milieu and include daily psychiatric management.

c. **Psychiatric Day Treatment** - services which constitute a program of a planned combination of diagnostic, treatment and rehabilitative services provided to a person with mental illness who needs more active or inclusive treatment than is typically available through a weekly visit to a mental health center, individual Provider’s office or hospital outpatient department, but who does not need 24-hour hospitalization.

d. **Structured Outpatient Addiction Program (SOAP)** - clinically intensive, structured day and/or evening substance use disorder services. These programs can be utilized as a transition service in the continuum of care for an Enrollee being discharged from Acute Substance Abuse Treatment, or can be utilized by individuals, who need Outpatient Services, but who also need more structured treatment for a substance use disorder. These programs may incorporate the evidence-based practice of Motivational Interviewing into clinical programming to promote individualized treatment planning. These programs may include specialized services and staffing for targeted populations including pregnant women, adolescents and adults requiring 24 monitoring.

e. **Program of Assertive Community Treatment (PACT)** shall mean a multi-disciplinary team approach to providing acute, active, ongoing, and long-term community-based psychiatric treatment, assertive outreach, rehabilitation and support. The program team provides assistance to Covered Individuals to maximize their recovery, ensure consumer-directed goal setting, assist individuals in gaining a sense of hope and empowerment, and provide assistance in helping the individuals served become better integrated into the community. Services are provided in the community and are available, as needed by the individual, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.

f. **Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP)** - a clinically intensive service designed to improve functional status, provide stabilization in the community, divert an admission to an Inpatient Service, or facilitate a rapid and stable reintegration into the community following a discharge from an inpatient service. The IOP
provides time-limited, comprehensive, and coordinated multidisciplinary treatment.

C. **Outpatient Services** - mental health and substance use disorder services provided in person in an ambulatory care setting such as a mental health center or substance use disorder clinic, hospital outpatient department, community health center, or practitioner’s office. The services may be provided at an Enrollee’s home or school.

1. **Standard outpatient Services** – those Outpatient Services most often provided in an ambulatory setting.

   a. **Family Consultation** - a meeting of at least 15 minutes’ duration, either in person or by telephone, with family members or others who are significant to the Enrollee and clinically relevant to an Enrollee’s treatment to: identify and plan for additional services; coordinate a treatment plan; review the individual’s progress; or revise the treatment plan, as required.

   b. **Case Consultation** - an in-person or by telephone meeting of at least 15 minutes’ duration, between the treating Provider and other behavioral health clinicians or the Enrollee’s primary care physician, concerning an Enrollee who is a client of the Provider, to: identify and plan for additional services; coordinate a treatment plan; review the individual’s progress; and revise the treatment plan, as required. Case Consultation shall not include clinical supervision or consultation with other clinicians within the same provider organization.

   c. **Diagnostic Evaluation** - an assessment of an Enrollee’s level of functioning, including physical, psychological, social, educational and environmental strengths and challenges for the purpose of diagnosis and designing a treatment plan.

   d. **Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT)** - a manual-directed outpatient treatment developed by Marsha Linehan, PhD, and her colleagues that combines strategies from behavioral, cognitive, and supportive psychotherapies for Covered Individuals with borderline personality disorder who also exhibit chronic, parasuicidal behaviors and adolescents who exhibit these symptoms. DBT may be used for other disorders if the Contractor determines that, based on available research, DBT is effective and meets the Contractor’s criteria for determining medical necessity.

   e. **Psychiatric Consultation on an Inpatient Medical Unit** - an in-person meeting of at least 15 minutes’ duration between a psychiatrist or Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Clinical Specialist and an Enrollee at the request of the medical unit to assess the Enrollee’s mental status and consult on a
behavioral health or psychopharmacological plan with the medical staff on the unit.

f. **Medication Visit** - an individual visit specifically for psychopharmacological evaluation, prescription, review, and/or monitoring by a psychiatrist or R.N. Clinical Specialist for efficacy and side effects.

g. **Medication Administration** shall mean the injection of intramuscular psychotherapeutic medication by qualified personnel.

h. **Couples/Family Treatment** - the use of psychotherapeutic and counseling techniques in the treatment of an Enrollee and his/her partner and/or family simultaneously in the same session.

i. **Group Treatment** – the use of psychotherapeutic or counseling techniques in the treatment of a group, most of whom are not related by blood, marriage, or legal guardianship.

j. **Individual Treatment** - the use of psychotherapeutic or counseling techniques in the treatment of an individual on a one-to-one basis.

j. **Inpatient-Outpatient Bridge Visit** - a single-session consultation conducted by an outpatient provider while an Enrollee remains on an Inpatient psychiatric unit. The Inpatient-Outpatient Bridge Visit involves the outpatient Provider meeting with the Enrollee and the inpatient team or designated inpatient treatment team clinician.

k. **Assessment for Safe and Appropriate Placement (ASAP)** - an assessment, required by MGL 119 Sec. 33B, conducted by a diagnostician with specialized training and experience in the evaluation and treatment of sexually abusive youth or arsonists, to evaluate individuals who are in the care and custody of DSS and who have been adjudicated delinquent for a sexual offense or the commission of arson, or have admitted to such behavior, or are the subject of a documented or substantiated report of such behavior, and who are being discharged from Inpatient Psychiatric Unit or Hospital or Community-Based Acute Treatment for Children/Adolescents or Intensive Community Based Acute Treatment for Children/Adolescents to a family home care setting. Services are provided through a DSS designated ASAP provider.

l. **Collateral Contact** - an in-person or by telephone conversation of at least 15 minutes’ duration between a Provider and individuals who are involved in the care or treatment of an Enrollee under 21 years of age, including, but not limited to, school and day care personnel, state agency staff, and human services agency staff.
m. **Acupuncture Treatment** - the insertion of metal needles through the skin at certain points on the body, with or without the use of herbs, an electric current, heat to the needles or skin, or both, as an aid to persons who are withdrawing from dependence on substances or in recovery from addiction.

n. **Opioid Replacement Therapy** - medically monitored administration of methadone, Buprenorphine, or other U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved medications to opiate-addicted individuals, in conformance with FDA and Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) regulations. This service combines medical and pharmacological interventions with counseling, educational and vocational services and is offered on a short-term (detoxification) and long-term (maintenance) basis.

o. **Ambulatory Detoxification (Level II.d)** - outpatient services for Members who are experiencing a serious episode of excessive substance use or withdrawal complications. Ambulatory Detoxification is provided under the direction of a physician and is designed to stabilize the Member’s medical condition under circumstances where neither life nor significant bodily functions are threatened. The severity of the individual’s symptoms will determine the setting, as well as the amount of nursing and physician supervision necessary during the course of treatment.

p. **Psychological Testing** - the use of standardized test instruments to assess a Covered Individual’s cognitive, emotional, neuropsychological, verbal, and defensive functioning on the central assumption that individuals have identifiable and measurable differences that can be elicited by means of objective testing.

q. **Special Education Psychological Testing** - psychological, emotional or neuropsychological testing which is requested by school personnel responsible for initiating referrals for diagnosis and evaluation of children who qualify for special education programs pursuant to Mass Gen. Law 71B, and which shall be utilized toward the development of an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP). Special Education Psychological Testing shall not be administered more than once a year unless new events have significantly affected the student’s academic functioning.

3. **Intensive Home or Community-Based Services for Youth** – mental health and substance use disorder services provided to Covered Individuals in a community-based setting such as home, school, or community service agency. The services provided are more intensive than services that may be provided through a standard outpatient service.

   a. **Family Support and Training**: a service provided to the parent/caregiver of a youth (under the age of 21), in any setting where the youth resides, such as
the home and other community settings. Family Support and Training is a service that provides a structured, one-to-one, strength-based relationship between a Family Support and Training Partner and a parent/caregiver. The purpose of this service is for resolving or ameliorating the youth’s emotional and behavioral needs by improving the capacity of the parent/caregiver to parent the youth so as to improve the youth’s functioning. Services may include education, assistance in navigating the child serving systems; fostering empowerment, including linkages to peer/parent support and self-help groups; assistance in identifying formal and community resources, support, coaching, and training for the parent/caregiver.

b. **Intensive Care Coordination** - a service that provides targeted case management services to individuals under 21 with a Serious Emotional Disturbance including individuals with co-occurring conditions. This service includes assessment, development of an individualized care plan, referral and related activities to implement the care plan and monitoring of the care plan.

c. **In-Home Behavioral Services** – this service usually includes a combination of behavior management therapy and behavior management monitoring, as follows:

   **C1. Behavior Management Therapy:** This service includes assessment, development of the behavior plan, and supervision and coordination of interventions to address specific behavioral objectives or performance. This service addresses challenging behaviors which interfere with the child’s successful functioning. The behavior management therapist develops and monitors specific behavioral objectives and interventions, including a crisis-response strategy, which are incorporated into the child’s treatment plan. The therapist may also provide short-term counseling and assistance, depending on the child’s performance and level of intervention required. Phone contact and consultation may be provided as part of the intervention.

   **C2. Behavior Management Monitoring:** This service includes implementation of the behavior plan, monitoring the child’s behavior, reinforcing implementation of the plan by parents or other caregivers and reporting to the behavior management therapist on implementation of the plan and progress toward behavioral objectives or performance goals. Phone contact and consultation may be provided as part of the intervention.

d. **In-Home Therapy Services** - This service is a therapeutic clinical intervention and ongoing training and therapeutic support, as follows:
**D1.** The Therapeutic Clinical Intervention is a structured, consistent, therapeutic relationship between a licensed clinician and the child and family for the purpose of treating the child’s mental health needs including improving the family’s ability to provide effective support for the child to promote healthy functioning of the child within the family. The clinician develops a treatment plan and, using established psychotherapeutic techniques, works with the entire family or a subset of the family, to enhance problem-solving, limit-setting, communication, emotional support or other family or individual functions. The Therapeutic Clinical Intervention is provided by a qualified licensed clinician who will often work in a team that includes one or more qualified paraprofessionals.

**D2.** Ongoing Therapeutic Training and Support is a service provided by a paraprofessional to support implementation of the licensed clinician’s treatment plan to achieve the goals of the treatment plan. The paraprofessional assists a licensed clinician in implementing the therapeutic objectives of the treatment plan designed to address the child’s mental health and emotional challenges. This service includes teaching the child to understand, direct, interpret, manage and control feelings and emotional responses to situations, and to assist the family in supporting the child in addressing his or her emotional and mental health needs. Phone contact and consultation may be provided as part of the intervention.

e. **Therapeutic Mentoring Services** - This service provides a structured, one-to-one mentoring relationship between a therapeutic mentor and a child or adolescent for the purpose of addressing daily living, social and communication needs. Each child or adolescent will have goals and objectives that are designed to support age-appropriate social functioning or ameliorate deficits in the child or adolescent’s age-appropriate social functioning. These goals and objectives are developed by the child or adolescent, as appropriate, and his/her treatment team and are incorporated into the treatment plan. The service includes supporting, coaching and training the child or adolescent in age-appropriate behaviors, interpersonal communication, problem-solving and conflict resolution and relating appropriately to other children and adolescents, as well as adults, in recreational and social activities. The therapeutic mentor works with the child or adolescent in such settings as their home, school or social or recreational activities.

**D. Emergency Services Program (ESP)** - services provided through designated contracted ESPs, and which are available seven days per week, 24 hours per day to provide treatment of any individual who is experiencing a mental health crisis.
1. **ESP Encounter** - each 24-hour period an individual is receiving ESP Services. Each ESP Encounter shall include at a minimum: crisis assessment, intervention and stabilization.

   a. **Assessment** - a face-to-face evaluation of an individual presenting with a behavioral health emergency, including assessment of the need for hospitalization, conducted by appropriate clinical personnel;

   b. **Intervention** – the provision of psychotherapeutic and crisis counseling services to an individual for the purpose of stabilizing an emergency; and

   c. **Stabilization** – short-term behavioral health treatment in a structured environment with continuous observation and supervision of individuals who do not require hospital level of care.

   In addition, medication evaluation and specialing services shall be provided if Medically Necessary.

2. **Youth Mobile Crisis Intervention** - a short-term mobile, on-site, and face-to-face therapeutic service provided for youth experiencing a behavioral health crisis and for the purpose of identifying, assessing, treating, and stabilizing the situation and reducing the immediate risk of danger to the youth or others consistent with the youth’s risk management/safety plan, if any. Mobile Crisis Intervention utilizes a multidisciplinary model, with both professional and paraprofessional staff. Services are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

E. **Other Behavioral Health Services** - Behavioral Health Services that may be provided as part of treatment in more than one setting type.

1. **Electro-Convulsive Therapy (ECT)** - a therapeutic service which initiates seizure activity with an electric impulse while the individual is under anesthesia. It is administered in a facility that is licensed to provide this service by DMH.

2. **Specialing** - therapeutic services provided to an Enrollee in a variety of 24-hour settings, on a one-to-one basis, to maintain the individual’s safety.