

NCCMH RESPONSE TO COVID-19

Issue #10 07.20.2020



PROVIDER COMMUNICATION

NORTH COUNTRY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

1420 PLAZA ROAD, PETOSKEY, MI 49770

NCCMH RESPONSE TO COVID-19: Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Administration

Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Administration

Communication #20-10

Resident Freedom of Movement and Visits with the Lifting of the Stay Home, Stay Safe Executive Order 2020-21

Date of Issuance: July 08, 2020

For Questions Please Contact:
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Resident Freedom of Movement and Visits with the Lifting of the Stay Home, Stay Safe Executive Order 2020-21

This guidance replaces the memo "Resident Freedom of Movement and Visits in Response to the Stay Home, Stay Safe Executive Order 2020-21" dated 06/20/20.

This updated guidance is being issued in response to the Governor's Office (MO) Executive Order 2020-21 (COVID-19). This guidance is directed to Pre-Flight Inpatient Health Plans (PHPs), Community Health Service Programs (CHSPs), provider agencies, direct care workers that provide home and community behavioral health care and supports, and residential care facilities that serve individuals with serious mental illness and individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

a. This guidance addresses freedom of movement in licensed adult foster care and specialized residential including Substance Use Disorder (SUD) residential settings. For purposes of this guidance, these facilities will refer to as "care facilities."

COMMUNICATION #20-10

Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Administration

Communication #20-11

Essential Behavioral Health Services in the COVID-19 Context: Updated Guidance

Date of Issuance: July 8, 2020

For Questions Please Contact:
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This guidance replaces the following documents:

1. Essential Behavioral Health Services and Stay Home Stay Safe Executive Order 2020-21 (COVID-19) Temporary requirement to suspend activities that are not necessary to sustain or access the Stay Home Stay Safe Order and is directed to the Pre-Flight Inpatient Health Plans (PHPs), Community Health Service Programs (CHSPs), their provider agencies and direct care workers that provide home and community based behavioral health care and supports or direct care clinical services to individuals with serious mental illness, children with various emotional/behavioral, individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, substance use disorders, and all other individuals served by the public behavioral health system or experiencing a behavioral health crisis. This guidance addresses considerations with the Governor's plan for re-opening of Michigan in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.
2. Guidance for Specific Clinically Essential Face to Face Encounters in Behavioral Health Clinics, Substance Use Services, and Residential Settings in the COVID-19 Context, BHDCA Communication #20-02, issued 02/20/20.

This guidance is being issued in response to the Governor's Executive Order 2020-21 (COVID-19) Temporary requirement to suspend activities that are not necessary to sustain or access the Stay Home Stay Safe Order and is directed to the Pre-Flight Inpatient Health Plans (PHPs), Community Health Service Programs (CHSPs), their provider agencies and direct care workers that provide home and community based behavioral health care and supports or direct care clinical services to individuals with serious mental illness, children with various emotional/behavioral, individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, substance use disorders, and all other individuals served by the public behavioral health system or experiencing a behavioral health crisis. This guidance addresses considerations with the Governor's plan for re-opening of Michigan in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

All behavioral health services are essential to sustain and protect life and therefore must continue to be provided. Behavioral health services shall continue to be provided in homes, residential or clinical settings. Services should continue to be performed in-personally or through other virtual methods where appropriate and safe. For all persons served there should be an ongoing relationship with good faith clinical assessments of an individual and family-centered basis. This assessment should include a review of whether the services provided require more person contact, a balanced combination of in-person and virtual, or can continue solely through electronic means or connect with persons served in any way.

COMMUNICATION #20-11

Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Administration

Communication #20-12

Infection Control Issues during Patient Close Contact Face to Face Assessment in Behavioral Health Clinic Settings in the COVID-19: Updated Guidance

Date of Issuance: July 8, 2020

For Questions Please Contact:
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Guidance for Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Administration public and private organizations, entities, activities, and providers who work closely with persons served behavioral health and substance use disorder (SUD) community-based settings. This guidance is focused on social infection control and use of Personalized Protective Equipment and masks. There is also an important note for COVID-19 testing, through testing is required to be done in the guidance, the guidance below is based on the recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Michigan. All individuals are encouraged to use resources available at www.michigan.gov/covid19, including posters to raise awareness of steps that can be taken. The website is being updated continuously.

Specific infection control issues during patient assessment in behavioral health clinical settings

When an individual requires a face to face encounter, the following strategies should be implemented to mitigate risk of spread of COVID-19:

- Patients with respiratory distress should check with their primary care provider and follow guidelines from the CDC and Michigan government.

COMMUNICATION #20-12

Recently three communications came out from MDHHS. Each communication addresses BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ADMINISTRATION. Click on each letter to read the full communication.

1. **Communications #20-10**; Resident Freedom of Movement and Visits with the lifting of the Stay Home, Stay Safe Executive Order 2020-21.
2. **Communications #20-11**; Essential Behavioral Health Services in the COVID-19 Context: Updated Guidance.
3. **Communications #20-12**; Infection Control Issues during Patient Close Contact Face to Face Assessment in Behavioral Health Clinic Settings in the COVID-19: Updated Guidance.

**As always, these orders are subject to change and often do. We will update you as information is received.*

07.20.2020

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