

# ValueAdded

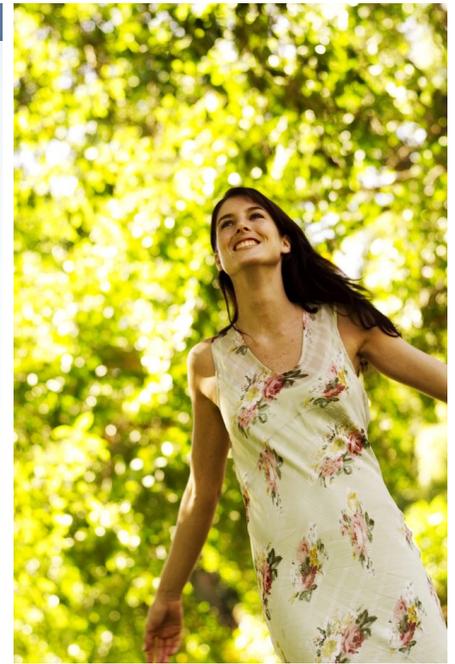
This is the 159th issue of our VBH-PA information update. These updates will be emailed to all network providers monthly. Please feel free to share our newsletter with others, and be sure your appropriate clinical and financial staffs receive copies.

## September is National Recovery Month

Every year Recovery Month is sponsored by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), part of U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Recovery Month promotes the societal benefits of prevention, treatment, and recovery for mental and substance use disorders, celebrates people in recovery, and promotes the message that recovery in all its forms is possible. Recovery Month spreads the positive message that behavioral health is essential to overall health, that prevention works, treatment is effective, and people can and do recover.

This year's Recovery Month theme, *"Join the Voices for Recovery: It's Worth It,"* emphasizes that while the road to recovery may be difficult, the benefits of preventing and overcoming mental and/or substance use disorders are significant and valuable to individuals, families, and communities. It also emphasizes that people in recovery achieve healthy lifestyles, both physically and emotionally, and contribute in positive ways to their communities.

Agencies may want to use this event as an opportunity to educate the general public about the need for treatment and how effective treatment contributes to a healthy community. A resource kit to help you plan is available online at [www.recoverymonth.gov](http://www.recoverymonth.gov). You may also visit <http://www.recoverymonth.gov/Community-Events/Find-an-Event.aspx> to view activities planned in your communities this month.



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This correspondence was received from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare. We are publishing it here for your information.

## Behavioral Specialist Licensure

On May 26, 2012, the Department of State, Board of Medicine promulgated regulations to allow for the licensure of a Behavioral Specialist. These regulations were in accordance with Act 62 calling for such licensure.

Act 62 also calls for Behavioral Specialists to be licensed within one year of the regulations being promulgated in order to bill either private insurance or Medical Assistance for the Behavior Specialist service. This means individuals working with children with Autism to “design, implement, or evaluate a behavior modification plan” who desire to bill for the service should plan on becoming a licensed Behavior Specialist prior to May 26, 2013.

The intent of this communication is to encourage all Behavior Specialists, including those Behavior Specialist Consultants (BSCs) who intend to continue to work with children with Autism, to obtain licensure prior to May 26, 2013. Given that this is a new license and it is anticipated that a large number of individuals are likely to apply for this license, we encourage individuals to apply for the license as soon as possible. This will allow for timely processing of the applications and avoid any potential disruptions in staff being reimbursed for behavior specialist services they may be providing

As stated in the Behavior Specialist regulations, certain licensed individuals, such as licensed social workers and licensed psychologists, will not need to obtain the additional Behavior Specialist licensure.

Questions regarding the behavioral specialist license, application, or process should be directed to: State Board of Medicine, P.O. Box 2649, Harrisburg, PA 17105-2649; Phone: (717) 783-1400; Fax: (717) 787-7769; ST-MEDICINE@pa.gov.

The application for the Behavior Specialist license can be found at: [http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/state\\_board\\_of\\_medicine/12512/licensure\\_information/599413](http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/state_board_of_medicine/12512/licensure_information/599413).

Information regarding the enrollment, provision and payment of the Behavior Specialist service will be forthcoming from the Department of Public Welfare.

# State Acts to Implement PH 95 MA Co-payment

On August 11th the Department of Public Welfare (DPW) announced its intent to amend the Medicaid State Plan to apply co-payments to services provided to certain Medical Assistance (MA) eligible children with disabilities. Co-payments will be applied for MA services provided to children with disabilities whose household income is above 200% of the federal poverty guidelines based on family size. DPW will determine family income based on the family's gross annual income prorated for monthly periods. The total aggregate amount of the co-payments will not exceed five percent of the family's gross annual income, prorated and applied on a monthly basis. The following are a sampling of key services that will not have co-payments:

- Preventive
- Early intervention
- Emergency
- Laboratory
- Medical exams for persons under 21 years of age provided through the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment program
- Targeted case management
- School-Based Access Program
- Home and Community Based Waiver
- Psychiatric partial hospitalization programs

The announcement in the Pennsylvania Bulletin focuses primarily on the fee-for-service system and provides insight into the implementation of the co-payments in HealthChoices. The notice can be found at [www.pabulletin.com/secure/data/vol42/42-32/1551.html](http://www.pabulletin.com/secure/data/vol42/42-32/1551.html).

All other co-payments for the fee-for-service system will be charged on a sliding scale based on the cost of the service. MA providers may not deny covered care or services nor may they waive or reduce the co-payment because of an individual's inability to pay the co-payment amount. Providers will be advised through the eligibility verification system that the co-payment maximum has been reached and they should not collect further co-payments. The department will send a written notice to recipients subject to co-payments and issue a bulletin to providers.

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Community  
Providers  
Association (PCPA)

# Claims Corner— Facility Billing Information

If you are a FACILITY provider and bill your claims on a UB04 (CMS 1450 claim form) or an 837I file, please read this information.

VBH-PA is required to submit a file to the State each month that contains detailed claim data on processed claims. There are various edits taking place, where if the claim is not completed correctly we receive an “error.” With the implementation of 5010, additional edits have been added and more information is needed from the provider than was previously required.

In an effort to help us reduce the number of errors we receive, VBH-PA is adding several edits to our adjudication program. The purpose of the additional edits is to allow us to ensure we are submitting the cleanest claims possible when we send out monthly extracts, and they will advise us at the time of processing the claim if all data elements have been submitted.

Below is a list of the fields we are required to submit:

- The service address must be a street address. Post Office Boxes are not valid service addresses
- If the payment address is different than the service address a Post Office Box is allowed in this field
- Federal Tax ID
- Statement Covers Period
  - *From* and *Through* dates of service. Note – if there are itemized dates in the detailed portion of the claim they must fall within the *From* and *Through* dates
- Patient Name
- Patient Address

- Street
- City
- State
- Zip code
- Birth Date
- Bill type – One issue we are seeing with this field is that the patient status indicates the patient is “still a patient,” but the bill type ends in a ‘1’ or a ‘4’ indicating the patient has been discharged. The notes below hold true for all UB claims, Inpatient, Residential Treatment, TC, Outpatient:
  - If the bill type ends in a ‘1’ this indicates an admission through discharge claim
    - The patient status cannot be “30”
    - There must be a discharge hour billed
  - If the bill type ends in a ‘2’ this indicates the member has been admitted to care and is still in care
    - The patient status must be ‘30’
    - There cannot be a discharge hour billed
  - If the bill type ends in a ‘3’ this indicates the member is still in care
    - The patient status must be ‘30’
    - There cannot be a discharge hour billed
  - If the bill type ends in a ‘4’ this indicates the member was discharged from care on the end date of service
    - The patient status cannot be ‘30’
    - There must be a discharge hour billed
- Admission Date
- Admission Hour

- Admission Type
- Admission Source
- Discharge Hour
- Patient Status
- Value Codes
  - 80 – Covered Days
  - 81 – Non-covered Days
- Value Amount
  - Number of covered days
  - Number of uncovered days
- Revenue Code
- Description
- HCPCS Code, if applicable; otherwise Rate is optional
- Service Date – only if a HCPCS code is billed
- Service Units
- Total Charge by Revenue Code
- Total Billed Charge for claim
- National Provider Identifier (NPI)
- Payer Name (including any primary insurance carriers)
- Health Plan ID
- Release of Information indicator
- Assignment of Benefits indicator
- Primary Insurance Carrier payments
- Insured’s Name
- Relationship
- Insured’s ID Number
- Diagnosis Code (all that apply)
- Present on Admission (POA) Indicator
- Admitting Diagnosis
- Attending Physician’s NPI
- Attending Physician’s Name
  - Last name
  - First name

If your organization has not been submitting this information to VBH-PA, we will require it to be sent by **December 7, 2012**, or it is possible that your claim will be denied with a request to resubmit it with the missing information.

# Reporting of Critical Incidents

Value Behavioral Health of Pennsylvania (VBH-PA) is committed to assisting providers with risk reduction as part of our ongoing Quality Improvement programs. While adverse incidents are reviewed individually, less severe incidents are reviewed in aggregate form in order to identify trends within a particular provider's programs and by levels of care, age, or other demographic data across the full provider network.

All providers are required by contract to report critical incidents directly to VBH-PA Risk Management regardless of other reporting requirements. A best practice would be for providers to address this requirement by internal policy and include a list of all entities/contacts that receive the incident reports. This would help ensure that during times of staff change, illness, or other time off, reporting will continue uninterrupted.

In the past, when VBH-PA learned from staff or county personnel that an incident had occurred that had not been reported to Risk Management, VBH-PA contacted the provider to remind them of their reporting obligations. Going forward, failure to report critical incidents will be reviewed by an interdepartmental committee to determine what actions should be taken. Providers should review their policies to ensure consistent and thorough reporting.

Please [click here](#) for the Table of Incidents that describes which incidents need to be reported. The Table of Incidents and Critical Incident reporting logs are available on the VBH-PA website at [www.vbh-pa.com](http://www.vbh-pa.com).

Reports may be **faxed to (724) 744-6505**, or you may report by calling VBH-PA Risk Management and leaving a confidential voicemail:

**Armstrong, Butler, Indiana,  
Lawrence, Washington and  
Westmoreland Counties**  
(724) 744 6365

**Beaver, Cambria, Crawford,  
Fayette, Greene, Mercer and  
Venango Counties**  
(724) 744-6526



## Welcome

**Juliana Kurilla** started on August 27<sup>th</sup> as a Part Time File Clerk.

**Kristopher Holsopple** started on August 27<sup>th</sup> as a Claims Processor.

## Employees on the Move

**Rhondale Henderson** is Director of Claims and Customer Service effective August 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Diane Werksman** is Director of Finance as of August 27<sup>th</sup>.

# You are a Mandated Reporter

## Reminder: Changes to legislative requirements for reporting child abuse in Pennsylvania effective May 2007

- As a mandated reporter you are obligated to report suspected child abuse between a child and any person, **regardless** of the relationship between them.
- If you suspect child abuse, you must report it. The child **does not** need to come before you directly.
- Penalties for failing to report child abuse or to make a referral to appropriate authorities have **increased** in severity.
- Please visit [www.dpw.state.pa.us](http://www.dpw.state.pa.us); ChildLine 1-800-932-0313; or The Pennsylvania Family Support Alliance at <http://pa-fsa.org>.



## Fall 2012 WPIC Videoconference Series

VBH-PA is pleased to announce that our service center will once again be a videoconferencing site for the WPIC Office of Education and Regional Programming videoconference series. These programs are free of charge and there are NO fees for continuing education credits.

The videoconferences are held from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in the Walnut Room at VBH-PA's Trafford Service Center. You are invited and welcome to attend.

For CEU information, registration information, and complete descriptions of these trainings, please [click here](#).

### Upcoming Videoconferences:

- **September 12**—Meeting the Behavioral Healthcare Needs of Persons with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and Co-Occurring Psychiatric Diagnoses
- **October 10**—Substance Use Disorders in Older Adults
- **November 14**—Working Together: Managed Care, Behavioral Health and Peer Specialists in Recovery-Oriented Programs
- **December 12**—Light Therapy: Treatment Indications and Proper Management

### Registration:

To register for one or all of these trainings, please visit the ValueOptions Provider Trainings Web page at: <https://www.valueoptions.com/forumRegistration/displayForumInfo.do>

Select **Pennsylvania** from the state dropdown list (DO NOT change any of the other fields) and then click on **Select**. Scroll down the screen and put a check mark in the box next to the event(s) and then hit **Register**. Phone-in registrations will not be accepted.

VBH-PA is one of many sites offering this opportunity. Please [click here](#) to view all locations offering this videoconference series. To register with another location, please contact the coordinator for that site.

# State Intensifies Voter ID Law Education & Outreach

According to an article in the Philadelphia Inquirer, the Department of State has intensified its voter outreach efforts by enhancing VotesPA.com and using Facebook and Twitter. This effort is part of an ongoing campaign by state officials to inform people about the new voter ID law, which requires voters to show an acceptable photo ID at the polls on November 6th. The website [www.votespa.com](http://www.votespa.com) now has an updated format for easy access to information on what constitutes an acceptable photo ID and how to obtain a valid ID. [Click here](#) to read the Philadelphia Inquirer article.

For details on Pennsylvania's Voter ID requirements, visit [www.namiswpa.org](http://www.namiswpa.org). Open the **All the Election Information that You Need** link or contact the NAMI Southwestern PA office and NAMI will send information via postal mail upon request.

**Department of State's Voter ID Hotline:** 1-877-VotesPA (868-3772)

**Key Dates for the 2012 Elections:**

- 10.9.12 - General Election Registration Deadline**
- 10.30.12** - Last day to apply for Civilian Absentee Ballot
- 11.2.12** - Last day for County Board of Elections to receive voted civilian absentee ballots
- 11.6.12** - General Election



*Ensure Your Voice is Heard: Be Registered and Cast Your Vote on November 6th!*

## Please Fax Your Member Discharge Summaries

For collaboration, aftercare and reporting requirements, it is essential that VBH-PA receives your member discharge summaries within 10 days of discharging a member. Please fax your discharge summaries to the appropriate fax number below:

| Fax                 | Service Type             | Members Residing in these Counties:   |
|---------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <b>855-439-2441</b> | BHRS & RTF               | Armstrong, Butler, Beaver, Cambria, Greene, Indiana, Lawrence, Washington and Westmoreland Counties |
| <b>855-439-2442</b> | Family Based             | Armstrong, Butler, Beaver, Cambria, Greene, Indiana, Lawrence, Washington and Westmoreland Counties |
| <b>855-439-2448</b> | BHRS, RTF & Family Based | Mercer, Crawford and Venango Counties.  |
| <b>724-437-5907</b> | BHRS, RTF & Family Based | Fayette County  |

# Announcement for Specialty Treatment Providers of Sexual Offenders

## Interested in Becoming an Individual Preferred Provider for the Treatment of Sexual Offenders?

Please note there have been recent changes made to the criteria. All specialty sexual offender treatment providers are required to meet the minimum standards as detailed below. These standards will be reviewed on a yearly basis. Please note that the minimum standards are required in order to continue to be a contracted specialty sexual offender treatment provider.

VBH-PA and our county partners believe that the treatment of sexual offenders is fundamentally different from traditional psychotherapy in a number of ways. Traditional clients seek treatment of their own volition because they are aware of their need for change, help, and growth. Sexual offenders are usually court ordered to treatment, and change, regardless of their desire, is imperative for the community at large. In addition, sexual offender treatment providers must have knowledge and experience beyond that of the traditional psychotherapist.

They must be able to demonstrate significant knowledge about:

- The criminal justice and corrections systems
- Specific treatment techniques for specific age groups
- Diagnostic criteria or classifications
- Normal and aberrant human sexual development
- Psychological and psycho-physiological testing relevant to appropriate sexuality and sexual deviance

### Individuals must meet all of the following minimum standards for Individual Preferred Providers of Sexual Offender Treatment:

1. Individuals must be licensed and credentialed with VBH-PA
2. Must have individual\* current clinical membership with the Association for Treatment of Sexual Abusers (ATSA)

~or~

Individual\* Sexual Offender Assessment Board (SOAB)

certification as a board member or provider of sex offender treatment.

3. Ongoing CEUs must meet individual licensing requirements

VBH-PA pays enhanced rates for evaluation and treatment and does not require psychological testing pre-certification for those meeting the above criteria. If you would like to learn more about meeting the criteria, please contact Dawn Mueseler, Provider Field Coordinator, at (724) 744-6361.

\*Individuals under a group certification (e.g. employed with a provider/facility that has ATSA or SOAB membership) or under the supervision of an ATSA or SOAB member, are excluded from consideration.

# Important Reminder Regarding Functional Behavioral Assessments

The cornerstone to delivering Behavioral Health Rehabilitation Services (BHRS) to all children and adolescents is an individualized treatment plan designed to meet the needs of the child or adolescent. Using a Functional Behavioral Assessment (FBA) to determine the treatment approach and ultimately develop a treatment plan is currently the standard of care for treating children and adolescents with behavioral health needs compounded by developmental disorders, such as autistic disorder and other pervasive developmental disorders, who present with challenging behaviors. FBAs may also be valuable for children with any behavioral health diagnosis who exhibit a complex behavioral issue.

Effective January 1, 2009, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare (DPW) Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS) required that Functional Behavioral Assessments (FBAs) conducted by credentialed (certified) Behavioral Specialist Consultants (BSCs) are available for children and adolescents with behavioral health needs compounded by

developmental disorders, such as autistic disorder and other pervasive developmental disorders, in both the fee-for-service delivery system and in HealthChoices.

In order to qualify for credentialing, a BSC must complete FBA training and demonstrate competence in conducting the FBA or complete one of the Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) credential programs offered by a university.

An FBA should be conducted as early in the treatment planning process as possible, at the beginning of service delivery, or before the current authorization period expires if there is significant change in behavior or deterioration in behavior that may indicate the need for a different level of care. The interventions and hours of ongoing treatment recommended from the FBA form the basis for developing the ongoing treatment plan and in formulating a crisis intervention plan.

The initial FBA will take an average of twelve to fifteen hours over four to six weeks to complete, but could take longer depending on the complexity of the child's needs.

The length of subsequent FBAs or updates to an FBA will similarly depend on the child's needs and the circumstances that prompted the need for the new or updated FBA.

The written record of an FBA includes the following: a statement of the hypothesis (including antecedents, behaviors, and consequences); a summary of the data; and a treatment plan reflecting the results of the FBA. The complete FBA report must be provided to the child's prescribing clinician prior to subsequent evaluations.

For more information, please refer to OMHSAS Bulletin number OMHSAS-09-01 issued January 9, 2009, and effective January 1, 2009, "Guidance for Conducting Functional Behavioral Assessments in the Development of Treatment Plans for Services Delivered to Children with Behavioral Health Needs Compounded by Developmental Disorders."

## 6th Annual Family Forum—Register Now!

Please join VBH-PA on **Friday, October 5, 2012**, for our 6th Annual Family Forum — **“Broadening Our Possibilities: Hope for Tomorrow.”** This year’s forum will take place at Westmoreland County Community College, Founders Hall Amphitheater, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. You are not going to want to miss the “Value”able information at this 6th Annual Family Forum with two inspiring plenaries, many vendors, and the Exceptional Parent/Caregiver Awards Ceremony.

Please [click here](#) for the registration brochure or visit our website at [www.vbh-pa.com](http://www.vbh-pa.com). Vendors, if you would like to exhibit

at this year’s forum, please [click here](#). We look forward to seeing you on October 5th!



Suggestions or ideas for articles that you would like to see published in *ValueAdded* can be faxed to Kim Tzoulis, *ValueAdded* Editor, at (724) 744-6363 or emailed to [kimberly.tzoulis@valueoptions.com](mailto:kimberly.tzoulis@valueoptions.com)

Articles of general importance to the provider network will be considered for publication.

Value Behavioral Health of PA, Inc.  
520 Pleasant Valley Rd  
Trafford, PA 15085  
Phone:  
(877) 615-8503  
Fax:  
(724) 744-6363



Find local events planned for National Recovery Month by clicking on the link below:  
<http://www.recoverymonth.gov/Community-Events/Find-an-Event.aspx>

A sampling of events planned for VBH-PA counties include:

**September 7**—*Explore Recovery Today*, 11am to 1pm at the Downtown Mall in Meadville

**September 16** — *TAG's Annual Recovery Walk*, Noon to 4pm at River Front Park in Kittanning

Come join in the activities ... It's Worth It!