



Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor
David R. Scrase, M.D., Secretary
Nicole Comeaux, J.D., M.P.H., Director

July 13, 2021

Interested Parties:

The New Mexico Human Services Department (HSD), through the Medical Assistance Division (MAD), is providing this notice of opportunity to comment on the proposed repeal and replacement of the Behavioral Health Policy and Billing Manual (BH Manual). The BH Manual provides a reference for the policies and processes related to Medicaid behavioral health services as defined in New Mexico Administrative Code (NMAC), section 8.321.2. The BH Manual also provides supplemental material as direction for the Managed Care Organizations (MCOs).

The proposed BH Manual includes updates, additions and clarifications. Updates of existing sections include, but are not limited to, those covering supervisory certification, critical incident reporting, telemedicine, behavioral health pharmacology, crisis triage centers, certified peer support workers, behavioral health respite services, and behavioral management skills. Licensed Professional Art Therapists (LPATs) have been added to the list of practitioners able to provide clinical supervision, and Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) with specialized training in Substance Use Disorder (SUD) have been added as staff options for Opioid Treatment Programs (OTPs).

The proposed BH Manual includes new sections on diagnostic classification of mental health and developmental disorders of infancy and early childhood, and substance use disorder assessment and treatment, including the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) criteria and levels of care, early intervention, and outpatient and inpatient services. Billing and coding instructions have been clarified throughout.

OPPORTUNITY TO VIEW DOCUMENTS AND MAKE COMMENTS

Medicaid providers, Medicaid recipients, and other interested parties may submit written comments directly to: Human Services Department, ATTN: Medical Assistance Division Public Comments, P.O. Box 2348, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-2348. Recorded comments may be left at (505) 827-1337. Interested persons may also address comments via electronic mail to: madrules@state.nm.us. **All comments must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. Mountain Time (MT), Thursday, August 12, 2021.**

The public may view the proposed Behavioral Health Policy and Billing Manual on the Department's website at: <https://www.hsd.state.nm.us/public-information-and-communications/opportunity-for-public-comment/public-notice-proposed-waiver-changes-and-opportunities-to-comment/comment-period-open/>

A written copy of the proposed documents may be requested by contacting the HSD Medical Assistance Division (HSD/MAD) in Santa Fe at (505) 827-1337.

Copies of all comments will be made available by HSD/MAD upon request by providing copies directly to a requestor or by making them available on the HSD/MAD website or at a location within the county of the requestor.

If you are a person with a disability and you require this information in an alternative format, please contact MAD at (505) 827-1337. The Department requests at least 10 working days advance notice to provide alternative formats and special accommodations.