

## Addendum 1 – Supplement 19-04

### **1. Medicaid Behavioral Health Updates**

Addendum 1 corrects the language found in Section XXII – Opioid Treatment Program (OTP), by removing the limitation on the ratio for substance abuse counselor caseloads.

Section B – Coverage Criteria – Subsection (9) is replaced with the following language:

- (9) Established substance abuse counselor caseloads based on the intensity and duration of counseling required by each patient. Counseling can be provided in person or via telehealth. Counselor to patient ratios should be sufficient to ensure that patients have reasonable and prompt access to counselors and receive counseling services at the required levels of frequency and intensity within the counselor's scope of practice.

Language in this section specifying a maximum patient ratio for a full-time counselor has been removed.

### **2. Behavioral Health Policy and Billing Manual for Providers Treating Medicaid Beneficiaries**

Addendum 1 corrects the language found in Section 5.3 – Opioid Treatment Program (OTP), by removing the limitation on the ratio for substance abuse counselor caseloads.

Section 5.3 – Part C – Subsection (4) is replaced with the following language:

- (4) Establishing substance abuse counselor caseloads based on the intensity and duration of counseling required by each patient. Counseling can be provided in person or via telehealth. Counselor to patient ratios should be sufficient to ensure that patients have reasonable and prompt access to counselors and receive counseling services at the required levels of frequency and intensity within the counselor's scope of practice.

Language in this section specifying a maximum patient ratio for a full-time counselor and requiring approval from the Behavioral Health Services Division (BHSD) to exceed the counselor to patient ratio has been removed.