

Provider eNews

PROVIDER ALERT - FEDERAL MENTAL HEALTH PARITY (FMHP)

To ensure compliance with the provisions of Federal Mental Health Parity (FMHP) effective, January 1, 2010, ValueOptions® has been making changes to the processes it currently employs to manage mental health and substance abuse services.

FMHP in general, applies to all employer groups with 50 or more employees. As ValueOptions® employer groups are brought into compliance, the following process changes will take effect. Medicare and Medicaid members are not subject to the provisions of FMHP at this time, and therefore no changes will be made to the current processes in place for Medicare and Medicaid. Collectively bargained plans will be subject to FMHP at the next contract revision. Retiree plans will be subject to FMHP when Medicare is.



Inpatient and all Alternative Levels of Care

For the majority of plans in place of the current preauthorization provisions, ValueOptions® will now require that notification of a member's admission to an inpatient mental health or substance abuse treatment facility be made within 24-hours. This same 24-hour notice requirement also applies to members admitted to Alternative Levels of Care (ALOC). ALOC includes partial hospitalization and intensive outpatient programs for the treatment of either mental health or substance abuse illnesses. Authorizations and notification requirement may vary by benefit plan.

Outpatient Care

Benefit plans for outpatient treatment may vary and In place of the current pass through/registration outpatient processes, ValueOptions® will initiate an outlier care management model. This outlier model will focus on individual cases by diagnostic category where the course of treatment varies significantly from the expected norm.

If a case is identified as an outlier, ValueOptions® will request additional clinical information about the member's treatment in order to ensure appropriate utilization management. Similarly, if an individual provider's treatment patterns within a diagnosis vary significantly from expected norm, additional information will also be requested.

ValueOptions® will also continue its focus on those members diagnosed with complex mental health and substance abuse illnesses. ValueOptions® will be contacting the treating provider early in the patients' treatment regimen in order to develop, in conjunction with the provider, an individualized plan of care. The goal of this process is to help assure, in cooperation with the provider, the best possible outcome for the patient.

ValueOptions® will continue to keep providers updated regarding the status of Federal Mental Health Parity. Click http://www.valueoptions.com/providers/Files/pdfs/Mental_Health_Parity_FAQ.pdf to view the Federal Mental Health Parity Frequently Ask Questions document.

"GIVING VALUE BACK TO THE PROVIDER" WEBINAR SERIES

ValueOptions® is proud to announce the return of our "Giving Value Back to the Provider" Webinars. The educational Webinar series will be offered to our providers twice a quarter. The presentations will introduce and discuss our new and exciting initiatives for you, the provider.

What information will the Webinar include?

- Overview of ValueOptions®
- Credentialing and Contracting Information
- Overview of Clinical Operations and Initiatives
- ProviderConnectSM Overview
- And much more!

Upcoming Dates and Times of Webinars:

Date	Time
September 16, 2010	2:00 PM - 4:00 PM EDT
September 17, 2010	11:00 AM - 1:00 PM EDT
December 9, 2010	2:00 PM - 4:00 PM EST
December 10, 2010	11:00 AM - 1:00 PM EST

Who should attend the Webinar?

All providers affiliated with ValueOptions® are invited to attend.

How to Register for the Webinars:

Go to http://www.valueoptions.com/providers/Files/pdfs/Giving_Value_Back_Webinar_Invite_2010.pdf

VALUEOPTIONS® LAUNCHES AN OUTPATIENT DETOXIFICATION BUPRENORPHINE (SUBOXONE® or SUBUTEX®) MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

ValueOptions® is now offering a program to several of our clients called the Outpatient Detoxification/Buprenorphine (Suboxone® or Subutex®) Maintenance Program.

ValueOptions® feels this program is necessary to help the estimated several million individuals who are suffering from abusing prescription medications and other opioids throughout our nation.

To learn more about the Outpatient Detoxification Buprenorphine (Suboxone® or Subutex®) Maintenance Program please visit: <http://www.valueoptions.com/providers/ProNews.htm>

WEBINAR RECORDING ARCHIVE

ValueOptions® has offered many educational Webinars in 2009 and 2010. Our Webinars are now being recorded in order to offer providers a more convenient way to listen and view trainings. A few examples of the Webinars that have been recorded include:

- ValueOptions® is Going Green: An introduction to PaySpan Health and ProviderConnectSM
- ValueOptions® Continues to Go Green in 2010: Electronic Authorization Letters
- Introduction to Ontrack Outcomes

Providers can access archived Webinar recordings by visiting the following links:

- **2009:** http://www.valueoptions.com/providers/Training/Training_Workshops_Archives_2009.htm
- **2010:** http://www.valueoptions.com/providers/Training/Training_Workshops_Archives_2010.htm

ValueOptions® continues to strive to make educational Webinars available to our providers. Please e-mail PRelations@ValueOptions.com with any ideas and/or suggestions.



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