

Information for In-Home Behavioral Services
October 29, 2009

Dear Providers,

As a follow-up to the *Alert* and letter disseminated in September by each MCE on additional credentialing criteria for providers delivering In-Home Behavioral Services (IHBS), on behalf of the MassHealth Managed Care Entities (MCEs), this Notice serves to clarify information in the *Alert* and letter about youth who may demonstrate a medical need for this service.

While the IHBS medical necessity criteria are your guide to determine the medical need for any individual, we wanted to clarify that there are generally four categories of youth who may need this service:

1. youth who are experiencing very serious behavioral health problems (examples include, but are not limited to, Trichotillomania and Pica disorders);
2. youth who, due to a behavioral health disorder, have persistent behavioral problems that impact their functioning in the home, school, or community;
3. youth with mental health conditions who cannot use talk-therapy approaches to change their behavior; or
4. youth with mental health conditions for whom talk-therapy approaches have not worked to change their behavior.

If you have any questions or want further clarification, please contact your MCE Technical Assistance Team or e-mail us:

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