



**Community Behavioral Health: Provider Notification**  
**Prescriber Discontinuation Letters**  
**June 11, 2018**

Community Behavioral Health (CBH) has identified the use of **prescriber discontinuation letters** to be an unnecessary barrier to addiction care. “Prescriber discontinuation letters” refers to a practice, prior to admission, that members prescribed controlled medication furnish a signed letter from their prescriber indicating that the prescriber will discontinue the prescription. This has historically served to prevent duplicative prescribing that can lead to abuse and diversion of medication; the PA Prescription Drug Monitoring Program has since subsumed this role.

Therefore, effective immediately, CBH residential drug and alcohol treatment providers must be able to admit members into treatment without prescriber discontinuation confirmation. Please note CBH believes coordination of care is an essential component of residential addiction treatment, and outreach to prescribers must continue during the treatment stay. For questions regarding this requirement, please contact Dr. Chris Tjoa, at [Chris.Tjoa@Phila.gov](mailto:Chris.Tjoa@Phila.gov).