

**Provider Bulletin # 18-08**  
**Community Behavioral Health**  
**Prior Authorization Requirement Waived for Medically Monitored Residential**  
**Care (Level 3B)**  
**June 1, 2018 (Amended 6/6/18, see footnote #1 below)**

To expand access to treatment and limit administrative requirements, as of **July 1, 2018**, Community Behavioral Health (CBH) will no longer require prior authorization for Medically Monitored Residential Care (Level 3B) for all individuals with a substance use diagnosis. Providers admitting CBH members to this level of care should notify the CBH Psychiatric Emergency Services (PES) line (215-413-7171) at the time the member is admitted, and an initial authorization for 7 days will be provided. Concurrent reviews will begin on day 7, and subsequent reviews will occur as necessary.

Providers admitting members to 3B units must complete an assessment as historically required<sup>1</sup>, including Pennsylvania Client Placement Criteria (PCPC) (and American Society of Addiction Medicine [ASAM] once providers have transitioned to this model), documenting that the member meets medical necessity for this level of care, within 72 hours of admission. CBH reminds providers that discharge planning must begin upon intake. Therefore, if it is determined upon the initial concurrent review that the individual does not meet medical necessity criteria for 3B, the member will be sufficiently ready for discharge. Additionally, when there are questions around meeting medical necessity that arise during concurrent review, retrospective chart reviews will occur through CBH's Compliance Department.

We will be evaluating the impact of this change to determine modifications needed, including resuming the prior authorization requirement for 3B. Changes will be communicated by subsequent bulletins. Questions regarding this Bulletin can be directed to your assigned Provider Representative.

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<sup>1</sup> This sentence was modified 6/6/18 to reflect a change from CBE to assessment.