

To: PerformCare Provider Network
From: Scott Daubert, VP Operations
Date: June 15, 2013
Subject: PC-09 Outpatient Treatment Plan Frequency

Claims Payment and Clinical Policy Clarification

Question/Issue:

For outpatient mental health clinics, what is the definition of “15 Clinic Visits” as mentioned in 5200.31 and 1153.52(7)(ii), related to calculating the due date for the first comprehensive treatment plan?

Source Documentation / References:

55 Pa. Code § 5200 Psychiatric Outpatient Clinics
55 Pa. Code § 1153 Outpatient Psychiatric Services

PerformCare Answer/Response:

The regulations state that an individual comprehensive treatment plan for every patient shall be reviewed and approved by a psychiatrist. The comprehensive treatment plan must be developed within 15 days of intake and be reviewed and updated every 120 days or 15 patient visits, whichever is first, by the mental health professional and psychiatrist. PerformCare has concluded that patient visits are defined as any visit to an outpatient clinic whether it is an individual, group and/or a psychiatric visit. More than one appointment on the same calendar day would count as one patient visit. For example, if an individual received a counseling session with a therapist and a psychiatric evaluation with a psychiatrist on the same calendar day this would represent one patient visit to the clinic.

Cc: PerformCare Managers
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