April 16, 2014

To: Joint Legislative Oversight Committee Members on HHS Commission for MH/DD/SAS Consumer/Family Advisory Committee Chairs State CFAC Advocacy Organizations and Groups NC Association of County Commissioners County Managers County Board Chairs NC Council of Community Programs

From: Courtney M. Cantrell

Communication Bulletin # 141: DSM 5 and ASAM Criteria

The Fifth Edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5) was released in May 2013. The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) will implement DSM-5 coding requirements effective August 1, 2014. The DSM-5 codes will be required for all dates of services beginning August 1, 2014. This timeframe gives clinical professionals additional time to learn the diagnostic codes for service authorization requests.

DSM-5 changes will apply to the following services:
• DMH/DD/SAS and DMA behavioral health services covered by the LME-MCOs.
• Behavioral health services authorized by Value Options and paid by NC Tracks for Health Choice beneficiaries and 0-3 year olds.

Additionally, The ASAM Criteria: Treatment Criteria for Addictive, Substance–Related, and Co-Occurring Conditions, Third Edition was published at the end of 2013. As of August 1, 2014, all clinical policies, rules, protocols, etc. will be updated to reflect this new manual. The use of ASAM is required for both DMH/DD/SAS and DMA in the determination of levels of care for substance abuse services.

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