

Provider Update

What Behavioral Health Providers Need to Know: Project BRAVO Phase 2 Implementation

Date: 10/15/2021

The Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) and the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) are implementing changes to improve the availability of behavioral health services to Medicaid members. As you prepare for Project BRAVO (Behavioral Health Redesign for Access, Value and Outcomes), Virginia Premier wants you to be aware of the following updates.

Services Begin on December 1, 2021

Multisystemic Therapy (MST): MST is an evidence-based, intensive home- and community-based treatment for youth with significant clinical impairment in disruptive behavior, mood, and/or substance use. MST has a large evidence base that has demonstrated robust clinical and systems outcomes, including reducing the need for inpatient hospitalization, residential treatment and other out-of-home placements for youth. MST involves significant training, supervision, monitoring, and fidelity practices.

- MST is a new service for youth; it does not replace any existing services.
- MST will use procedure code H2033. Modifiers are to be determined.

Functional Family Therapy (FFT): FFT is a short-term, evidence-based treatment program for at-risk and justice-involved youth who have been referred for behavioral or emotional problems by the juvenile justice, mental health, and school or child welfare systems. FFT has a large evidence base that has demonstrated robust clinical and systems outcomes, including reducing the need for inpatient hospitalization, residential treatment and other out-of-home placements for youth. FFT involves significant training, supervision, monitoring and fidelity practices.

- FFT is a new service for youth; it does not replace any existing services.
- FFT will use the procedure code H0036. Modifiers are to be determined.

Mobile Crisis: Mobile Crisis involves brief, focused assessment and treatment that reviews precipitating events leading to a crisis, the history of the crisis, a mental status exam and disposition planning. Service components include: 1) the mobilization of resources to defuse the crisis and restore safety, 2) implementing interventions that minimize the potential for psychological trauma and prevent further deterioration of functioning and 3) facilitating linkage to other supports and services to avert inpatient hospitalization.

- Mobile Crisis will replace and serve as an enhancement of the current crisis Intervention [H0036] service for youth and adults.
- Mobile Crisis will serve both youth and adults.

- Mobile Crisis will use procedure code H2011. Modifiers are to be determined.

Community Stabilization: Community Stabilization provides short-term services designed to support continued de-escalation and crisis stabilization following initial crisis intervention/response that are provided to an individual in their natural environment.

- Community Stabilization will replace and serve as an enhancement of the current crisis stabilization [H2019] service for youth and adults.
- Community Stabilization will serve both youth and adults.
- Community Stabilization will use the procedure code S9482. Modifiers are to be determined.

23-Hour Observation: 23-Hour Observation provides short-term, walk-in psychiatric/substance related crisis evaluation and brief intervention services to support an individual who is experiencing an abrupt and substantial change in behavior noted by severe impairment of functioning typically associated with a precipitating situation or a marked increase in personal distress. Services are accessible 24/7. Individuals participate in the service for up to 23 hours in a residential crisis stabilization unit.

- 23-hour observation is a new service and will use procedure code S9485.
- 23-hour observation will serve both youth and adults.
- 23-hour observation is a service provided within a licensed facility setting.

Residential Crisis Stabilization: Residential Crisis Stabilization units provide short-term, 24/7, facility-based psychiatric/substance related crisis evaluation and brief intervention services to support an individual who is experiencing an abrupt and substantial change in behavior noted by severe impairment of functioning typically associated with a precipitating situation or a marked increase in personal distress.

- Residential Crisis Stabilization will replace and serve as an enhancement of the current crisis stabilization [H2019] service for youth and adults.
- Residential Crisis Stabilization will serve both youth and adults.
- Residential Crisis Stabilization will use procedure code H2018.

Review the [DMAS Provider Manual](#) to learn more.

DBHDS CONNECT Web Portal Goes Live November 3, 2021

Effective October 18, the Office of Licensing will no longer accept any paper service modifications, renewal applications or initial applications. The Web Portal will allow providers to electronically submit all required paperwork such as initial applications, license renewal applications, service modifications, corrective action plans (CAPs) and variances. More information can be found on the [DBHDS website](#).

Please note: Provider licensure for services will impact ability to provide and be reimbursed for those services beginning December 1, 2021.

Critical Incident Reporting to Virginia Premier

Providers must report Critical Incidents to Virginia Premier within 24 hours of learning about the event. To report, call 804-819-5703, ext. 38008, or email criticalincident@virginiapremier.com. A critical incident is any incident that threatens or impacts the well-being of the member. Critical incidents include, but are not limited to, the following: medication errors, severe injury or fall, theft, suspected physical or mental abuse or neglect, financial exploitation, and death of a member. View the [Critical Incident Reporting](#) flyer to learn more.

Authorization Requirements and Workflow

Beginning December 1, 2021, the following applied behavior analysis (ABA) codes will require authorization: 97153, 97155, 97154, 97158, 97156, 97157, 0362T and 0373T.

To obtain real-time confirmation of all authorization requirements, providers should refer to the [Virginia Premier Prior Authorization Tool](#). To fax authorizations for Project BRAVO Services, please use the following:

- Crisis Services, MH-PHP, MH-IOP: 804-799-5105
- All Medallion 4.0 MHS other than above: 804-343-0304
- All MLTSS other than above: 804-799-5104

Contact Us

For any questions on the new programs or how they impact your practice, please contact us at 1-800-727-7536 or email contactmyrep@virginiapremier.com