



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
CHILD AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION
3627 KILAUEA AVENUE, ROOM 101
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96816

In reply, please refer to:
File:

MEMO

To: Contracted Provider Agencies

cc: CAMHD Staff

From: M. Stanton Michels, M.D., Administrator; Kurt Humphrey, M.D., Medical Director;

Derek Vale, Health Systems Management Office Chief; Lesley Slavin, Ph.D., Chief Psychologist

Date: February 22, 2018

Re: Standard Use of Service Authorizations

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We are writing this memo to provide a clarification of your contract with CAMHD. We have received inquiries from some providers about service authorizations, particularly authorizations for Intensive in-home interventions that are billed by the hour (IIH, IILS, CBI).

CAMHD service authorizations define the maximum number of hours or days that can be billed in a month for a particular service. They are not meant to be a prescription or an order for a certain amount of time to be provided. Therapists and their supervisors are expected to use their clinical judgement to provide the amount of therapy that is clinically appropriate as the treatment unfolds - up to this limit. Providers are expected to work with the family to develop a schedule for sessions that will be practical for everyone, and with the Family Guidance Center Team to adjust service authorizations if more time is needed.

The language underlined below will be added to the Orange Book, and similar language will be included in the Teal Book – the new (2018) version of the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Performance Standards (CAMHPS):

All contracted services require prior authorization from CAMHD before service can be provided, with the exception of Emergency Services that must be provided immediately. Without service authorizations, Contractors cannot bill for services rendered. The CC is responsible to initiate prompt authorization of services. Service authorizations represent an upper limit on the amount of services that may be billed. CAMHD relies on the clinical judgement of provider therapists to determine whether or not to utilize all of the time authorized. Provider therapists are expected to avoid providing more hours or days of treatment than is clinically appropriate to meet the youth's needs. (2012 edition of the CAMHPS, p. 11)

As with any other health care funder/insurance provider, CAMHD expects services rendered to address genuine clinical needs in line with Medicaid regulations and professional ethics.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions about this issue.