

## Home Health Level of Care Guidelines – Summary of Draft Changes

**Rationale for change:** The existing Home Health Level of Care Guidelines were published in 2007. With the implementation of Public Act No. 12-1 allowing nurse delegation of medication administration, revisions to the Guidelines were needed in order to incorporate the requirements for administration of medications by a home health aide/homemaker. This required revision provided an opportunity to review the existing guidelines and identify opportunities for clarification of service objectives and care criteria. Through collaboration between ValueOptions CT, DMHAS, DSS, home health providers, a community psychiatrist and the parent of a member receiving home care services, these draft Guidelines were developed. The intent is to provide more concrete guidance to providers, as well as a broader context of Recovery that includes client autonomy and integration with community based services. This draft also updates the Admission Criteria to reflect the DSM V.

### **A. Home Care Nursing Services**

#### **Definition - Page 1:**

- Addition of paragraph 2 regarding Recovery principles, paragraph 3 regarding nurse delegation.

#### **Authorization Process and Time Frame for Service - Page 2-3:**

- Updated authorization time frames for medication administration visits
- Adds requirement for Home Health Plan of Care (CMS 485)
- Addition of paragraphs 2 and 3 regarding physician orders

#### **A.1.0 Admission Criteria - Page 4**

- A.1.1 - updated for DSM V
- A.1.2 – all items updated with additions for greater specificity and time frames for eligibility criteria

#### **A.2.0 Continued Care Criteria - Page 5**

- Change of “family” to “support network”
- A.2.1.2 - Adds requirement for CMS 485 and every 60 day updates to care plan and goals, language updated to be Recovery focused
- A.2.1.3 – modified for Recovery focus and requirement for at least monthly assessment
- A.2.1.4 – changed to specify content of Home Health Plan of Care
- A.2.3 - addition of section A.2.3.3 regarding supporting documentation

### **B. Home Health Aide Services - Page 8**

#### **Definition**

Addition of Paragraph 2 regarding Recovery principles

#### **Authorization and Time Frame for Service**

- Updated authorization time frames for home health aide visits
- B.1.1 - updated for DSM V
- Addition of B.2.1.3 regarding duration of visit, previous B.2.1.3 and B.2.1.4 are not B.2.1.4 and B.2.1.5