MEMORANDUM

TO: QUEST Expanded Access (QExA) health plans
Community Care Services (CCS) program

FROM: Kenneth S. Fink, MD, MGA, MPH
Med-QUEST Division Administrator

SUBJECT: DHS 1147 APPROVAL FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH MENTAL ILLNESS

The Department of Human Services, Med-QUEST Division (MQD) issued the attached memorandum to the Health Services Advisory Group (HSAG) with regards to approval of long-term services and supports (LTSS) for individuals with mental illness that have functional impairment. Health plans and the CCS behavioral health organization (BHO) are responsible for assuring that individuals with mental illness receive medically necessary services. Health plans shall assure the following concepts are implemented when providing LTSS to individuals with mental illness.

- A beneficiary eligible for Nursing Facility (NF) Level of Care (LOC) services shall be provided with options for nursing facility or home and community based services (HCBS) based on the appropriateness of the setting and the preference of the individual. Placement options shall be based on the situation and medical/care/functional needs of the beneficiary. In addition, individuals with a mental illness shall not be excluded from receipt of at-risk services solely because of their diagnosis.

- Community Care Services (CCS) or the individual’s health plan shall ensure that members receive appropriate psychiatric services by trained staff regardless of placement disposition.

- Supporting documentation shall be included with all 1147 referral packets.

Please contact Patti Bazin via e-mail at pbazin@medicaid.dhs.state.hi.us or call her at 692-8083 should you have any questions.

Attachment

c: Health Services Advisory Group (HSAG)