

FYI Fridays

(Policy Guidance and DBH Updates)

May 11, 2018

1. **Budget Update** – The Department’s budget has been Truly Agreed to and Finally Passed (TAFP).

What has been TAFP:

- Provider Rate Increase 1.5%
- Compulsive Gambling was restored.
- The Opioid New Decision Item (NDI) for Peers in the ER and ATR recovery supports appropriated at \$4,004,929
- The Behavioral Health Pilot Program in STL City NDI (Rep. May) \$500,000.
- Sen. Curls added \$800,000 FED to support the Crisis System in KC. We believe it is intended for the KC Assessment and Triage Center, but it is still unknown at this time.

2. **Allocations (Fiscal Year End)** – Reminder: All Medicaid allocation transfers must be submitted to central office by May 29 to ensure enough funding for final Medicaid billing cycle June 3 and all non-Medicaid transfers must be submitted by June 12 to ensure adequate funding for final non-Medicaid billing cycle on June 17. Please reference the CIMOR Priority sent May 9 for details.

3. **MAT? Not anymore!** – While it seems that the rest of the behavioral health world is just waking up to Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT), here in MO we like to be at the forefront... of initiatives, of evidence-based practices, and the most accurate and appropriate language! Hats off to every single one of you that have worked so hard to eradicate “abuse” from its former grammatical position (following substance)...we all know that the accurate terms are “use” and/or “misuse” – keep spreading the word!

A newer change is taking the “assisted” out of the terminology of medications for addiction! We never say “counseling assisted treatment,” or “medication assisted treatment” when referring to mental illness, or “insulin assisted treatment” for diabetes. Therefore, when referring to the medications used to treat addictions, we can simply say, “medications,” or “medications for addictions,” or “addiction medications’ or “the medical treatment of addiction.” Thanks in advance for keeping our workforce up-to-date!

4. **TIP 45 – Detoxification Excerpt – Important Info! *Emphasis added...*** (pg. 55-56) – “The consensus panel agrees that for **alcohol, sedative-hypnotic, and opioid withdrawal syndromes**, hospitalization (or some form of 24-hour medical care) is generally the preferred setting for detoxification, based on principles of **safety and humanitarian** concerns. When hospitalization cannot be provided, **a setting that provides a high level of nursing and medical back-up 24 hours per day, 7 days a week is desirable.**” Further...”It is **highly desirable that individuals entering social detoxification be assessed by primary care practitioners with some experience in substance [a]buse treatment.**” (pg. 68) – “It is **not recommended that clinicians attempt to manage significant opioid withdrawal symptoms** (causing discomfort and lasting several hours) **without the effective detoxification agents** [discussed below]. Even mild levels of opioid use commonly produce uncomfortable levels of withdrawal symptomatology. Management of this syndrome without medications can produce **needless suffering** in a population that tends to have limited tolerance for physical pain.”

Please be aware that the Division is closely evaluating admission criteria for social setting detoxification programs in our system. The TIP cited above, as well as other sources in the field, indicate that opioid,

alcohol and sedative/hypnotic withdrawal are usually NOT appropriate diagnoses to treat in a setting with no use of medications or medical oversight.

5. **Opioid Crisis Management Team Training** - The next Opioid Crisis Management Training will be held in Kansas City on Tuesday, June 26, 2018 (1pm to 5pm). The focus of the trainings will be on the Medical, Psychosocial, and Administrative aspects of implementing evidence-based opioid treatment programs. Each event will include brief presentations, followed by topic-specific breakout sessions and group dialogue about barriers and solutions. Please register at the link below, and please send this to colleagues who you think would be interested:

The Aladdin Holiday Inn Hotel
Roof Garden Ballroom 16th Floor
1215 Wyandotte Street
Kansas City, MO 64105

Register here: <https://katiehorst.wufoo.com/forms/mfumvbb0m3phgd/>

Look for updates on different topics/initiatives next Friday!