



## North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

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### **MCO Communication Bulletin #J103**

**Date:** October 31, 2014

**To:** LME-MCOs

**From:** Courtney M. Cantrell, Ph.D., Director, DMH/DD/SAS, and Kathy Nichols, Lead Waiver Program Manager, Contracts Section, DMA

**Subject:** Medical Detoxification Billing

The purpose of this bulletin is to emphasize that all claims that group to a psychiatric Diagnosis Related Group (DRG), including Medical Detoxification, should be paid by the LME-MCOs.

Many claims for Medical Detoxification hospital admissions are currently being denied at the LME-MCO level and are then being sent to the Division of Medical Assistance for fee for service payment. Medical Detoxification groups to a psychiatric Diagnosis Related Group (DRG) which is part of the benefit plan offered by the LME-MCOs and this DRG has been included in the development of the LME-MCO capitation. It is also important to note that the LME-MCO also will be responsible for follow up and aftercare of these beneficiaries, which can more effectively be done if the LME-MCO follows the beneficiary through their entire course of treatment.

If you have questions, please contact Kathy Nichols at [Katherine.A.Nichols@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:Katherine.A.Nichols@dhhs.nc.gov).

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