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Date: April 21, 2015
To: LME-MCOs
From: Kathy Nichols, Lead Waiver Program Manager, Behavioral Health Section, DMA, and Mabel McGlothlen, LME System Performance Team Leader, DMH//DD/SAS
Subject: Nurse Practitioners Providing Behavioral Health Outpatient Services

The purpose of this bulletin is to inform Nurse Practitioners of a two year extension granted for certification as Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioners.

Nurse Practitioners certified in a specialty other than psychiatric mental health who plan to provide behavioral health outpatient services under the Division of Medical Assistance Clinical Coverage Policy 8C, or through state funds managed by the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services (DMH/DD/SAS) must have completed the Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) national certification and be approved to practice as a PMHNP by a Joint Committee of the North Carolina Medical Board and the North Carolina Board of Nursing **by June 30, 2017**.

If PMHNP national certification and approval to practice as a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner is not obtained by June 30, 2017, the Nurse Practitioner will no longer be able to provide behavioral health services under Clinical Coverage Policy 8C or through DMH/DD/SAS state funds.

If you have questions, please contact Kelsi Knick at Kelsi.Knick@dhhs.nc.gov or (919) 855-4288.

Previous bulletins can be accessed at: <http://jtcommunicationbulletins.ncdhhs.gov/>

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