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LME-MCO Communication Bulletin #J184

Date: February 25, 2016

To: LME-MCOs

From: Kathy Nichols, Behavioral Health Manager, Behavioral Health Section, DMA and Mabel McGlothlen, LME-MCO System Management Section Chief, DMH/DD/SAS

Subject: Differences between TMACT and Routine Monitoring

The purpose of this bulletin is to clarify the difference between the Tools for Measurement of Assertive Community Treatment (TMACT) and routine monitoring.

Per the contract between the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Division of Medical Assistance (DMA) and the LME-MCOs, in Section 7.1, the LME-MCOs are required to have mechanisms in place to access the quality and appropriateness of care furnished to Enrollees with behavioral health care needs. Additionally, Section 15.6, Assertive Community Treatment (ACT), states it is the responsibility of the LME-MCO to contract only with providers who are in fidelity to the TMACT model in accordance with the Department of Justice Settlement Agreement and current policy. It is also the responsibility of the LME-MCO to provide current ACT programs with reasonable training and technical assistance to meet the current service definition requirements.

Although the TMACT is a validated quality improvement tool that can help inform the LME-MCOs of an ACT team's culture and daily business and clinical practices, it is not a substitute and does not take the place of routine monitoring of the service and compliance with [Clinical Coverage Policy \(CCP\) 8A-1](#) requirements. *For example, a team can score at or above a 3.0, meeting minimal fidelity, without a fully staffed or appropriately credentialed team and still be out of compliance with CCP 8A-1.*

In order for teams to bill and be reimbursed by Medicaid, they must follow mandates in CCP 8A-1. Monitoring ACT teams is necessary to provide them with relevant and meaningful technical assistance - a contractual requirement, this also helps LME-MCOs to interact with ACT teams and shape networks with quality and progressive ACT providers.

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

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