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LME-MCO Communication Bulletin #J334

Date: July 26, 2019

To: Local Management Entities-Managed Care Organizations (LME-MCOs)

From: Deb Goda, Behavioral Health Unit Manager, NC Medicaid
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Subject: LOCUS/CALOCUS

The purpose of this bulletin is to clarify for LME/MCOs and providers the current status of use of the Level of Care Utilization System (LOCUS) and Level of Care Utilization System for children and adolescents (CALOCUS).

At this time, LOCUS and CALOCUS remain the assessment tools identified by DHB and DMH/DD/SAS for use in connection with medical necessity reviews for mental health services. LME/MCOs and providers should take note of the copyright restrictions imposed by the company which owns LOCUS and CALOCUS. Per these restrictions, paper or unmodified, read-only pdf versions of these instruments may be used at no charge.

However, the Department of Health and Human Services has been informed by the company which claims to own all electronic rights to LOCUS and CALOCUS, that other use of these instruments, including but not limited to, creation of modified or editable electronic versions or incorporation of the tools into electronic health record systems, is subject to licensure and user fees established by the company. Any questions regarding the copyright restrictions should be directed to the company which owns these tools, contact information available at: <http://www.dbhn.com/index.cfm/contact-us/>.

DHHS is continuing its ongoing evaluation of behavioral health assessment tools currently available for adults and children & adolescents to determine which of these instrument(s) may best meet the needs of LME/MCOs, providers, and the members they serve going forward.

Previous bulletins can be accessed at <http://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/mhddsas/joint-communication-bulletins>

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