



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

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LME/MCO Joint Communication Bulletin # J426

DATE: July 22, 2022

TO: Local Management Entities/Managed Care Organizations (LME/MCOs)

FROM: Sam Hedrick, DHHS Senior Advisor to the Secretary for ADA and Olmstead
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SUBJECT: **Follow-up to Joint Communication Bulletin #J419 – Clarification Regarding Transitions to Community Living (TCL) Eligibility for Individuals with Co-Occurring Neurocognitive and/or Acquired Brain Injury Diagnoses**

This bulletin further clarifies the reference in [Joint Communication Bulletin \(JCB\) # J419](#) to the co-occurring diagnostic eligibility criteria guidelines for Transitions to Community Living (TCL) when an individual is diagnosed with a neurocognitive disorder or an acquired brain injury. See [Section II.\(E\) of the 2012 North Carolina Settlement Agreement with the United States Department of Justice](#). Of note, the diagnostic category of Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) is inclusive of Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI).

Determination of TCL Eligibility for Individuals with Severe and Persistent Mental Illness (SPMI) and/or Serious Mental Illness (SMI) and a Co-Occurring Diagnosis of Acquired Brain Injury

1. An individual is TCL eligible if diagnosed with an SPMI and/or an SMI and a co-occurring neurocognitive disorder and/or other medical condition.
2. An individual is TCL eligible if diagnosed with an SPMI and/or SMI and co-occurring ABI where it is clinically determined that the ABI is secondary to the SPMI and/or SMI.
3. An individual is not TCL eligible if, at the time of application to TCL, the individual has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease and/or dementia, even if the person is also diagnosed with an SPMI and/or SMI.
4. An individual is not TCL eligible if diagnosed with an ABI and a co-occurring SPMI and/or SMI where their ABI is clinically determined to be the primary source of the SPMI and/or SMI.

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

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