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SECTION 15: BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAM

As a Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan, HPSJ has the responsibility to administer medically necessary outpatient mental health services to adults and children diagnosed with a mental health condition resulting in mild to moderate impairment of mental, emotional, or behavioral functioning. As of 2015, HPSJ also has the responsibility for children diagnosed with autism.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BENEFITS

All eligible Medi-Cal HMO Members with a mental health diagnosis and with mild or moderate impairment receive the following mental health benefits administered through HPSJ:

- Individual and group mental health evaluation and treatment (psychotherapy)
- Psychological testing when clinically indicated to evaluate a mental health condition
- Outpatient Services for the purposes of monitoring drug therapy
- Outpatient laboratory, supplies, and supplements
- Psychiatric consultation
- Comprehensive Diagnostic Evaluation (CDE)
- Behavior Health Therapy (BHT) as indicated per evaluation for Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) diagnosis

Specialty mental health services for Members of all ages with severe impairment are provided by the County Behavioral Health Department.

HPSJ PARTNERSHIP WITH BEACON HEALTH STRATEGIES (“BEACON”) AND COLLEGE HEALTH IPA (“CHIPA”)

HPSJ has selected Beacon Health Strategies (“Beacon”) which is an NCQA accredited behavioral health vendor, in partnership with College Health IPA (“CHIPA”), to administer the Behavioral Health Treatment (BHT) Covered Services to eligible Members (adults and children).

Members requiring Medically Necessary outpatient mild to moderate mental health services must receive their care through Beacon. All requests and referrals should be coordinated through Beacon by calling (888) 581-7526. In addition, all claims should be directed to Beacon for payment using one of the following methods:

- eServices – Beacon’s Proprietary Portal
- EDI or Clearing House
- Fax: 877-563-3480

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- Mail:
Beacon Health Options
P.O. Box 1862
Hicksville, NY 11802-1862

For questions about contracting with Beacon/CHIPA as an Autism Spectrum Disorder provider in their network, please call Beacon's National Provider Service Line at (800) 397-1630 or email providerinquiry@beaconhs.com. For questions about contracting with HPSJ for mild-to-moderate behavioral health, please visit the HPSJ web site www.hpsj.com/providers.

COVERAGE FOR CHILDREN WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER (ASD)

Consistent with Medi-Cal guidelines, HPSJ provides Member Covered Services through Beacon for children under the age of twenty-one (21) years old who have been diagnosed with ASD. The initial diagnosis of ASD can be made by a PCP or a mental health provider. The role of the PCP is of vital importance in order to provide medical follow-up for co-occurring medical disorders that may complicate treatment. All requests and referrals should be arranged by contacting Beacon at (888) 581-7526.

SERVING MEMBER'S BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NEEDS

PCPs are expected to provide behavioral health services that are within the scope of their practice and to refer Members with suspected serious mental illness to the County Behavioral Health Department. Medi-Cal Members with mild or moderate mental illness are to be referred to Beacon and the services will be provided through Beacon's provider network.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH MEDICATIONS

Psychotropic drugs are carved out to traditional fee-for-service Medi-Cal.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE DISORDER BENEFITS FOR MEMBERS

Substance Abuse Disorder Benefits are carved out of the Medi-Cal HMO. This benefit is administered by the Medi-Cal Alcohol and Drug Abuse system. All eligible Medi-Cal HMO Members receive the following substance abuse disorder benefits administered by the County Behavioral Health System:

- Voluntary inpatient detoxification
- Intensive outpatient treatment services
- Residential treatment services
- Outpatient drug free services

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Members who need treatment for substance abuse disorders receive services in San Joaquin and Stanislaus counties, through Medi-Cal’s Alcohol and Drug Abuse program through the County Behavioral Health Program.

STAYING HEALTHY ASSESSMENT

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), requires that all PCPs have Members complete the Staying Healthy Assessment (SHA) or an approved alternate tool within one hundred twenty (120) days of Enrollment and periodically thereafter. The SHA tool includes two questions that screen for mental health and two questions that screen for substance abuse disorder.

ALCOHOL MISUSE SCREENING AND BEHAVIORAL COUNSELING INTERVENTIONS

Members who have a positive screen for alcohol abuse problem on the SHA tool are to receive an Alcohol Misuse Screening. The Alcohol Misuse Screening is a detailed screening and a brief intervention as recommended by the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF). It enables a PCP to identify, reduce, and prevent problematic use, abuse and dependence on alcohol.

- PCPs must review a Member’s response to the alcohol question in the SHA. PCPs must offer an expanded alcohol screening questionnaire to all Medi-Cal Members who answer “yes” to the alcohol question in the SHA. This longer screening questionnaire, such as the AUDIT or AUDIT-C, is billable to HPSJ.
- For all Members who answer “yes” to the alcohol question, the PCP must offer an “alcohol use brief intervention” or refer Members with a potential alcohol abuse disorder for treatment to the County for services. The contact information for the County mental and Behavioral Health departments are as follows:

San Joaquin County		Stanislaus County	
Behavioral Health	Substance Abuse Disorder	Behavioral Health	Substance Abuse Disorder
Mental Health Services 1212 N. California St. Stockton CA 95202 (209) 468-8700	Substance Abuse Services Administration 630 Aurora Street Suite #1 Stockton, CA 95202 (209) 468-3800	Stanislaus County Behavioral Health & Recovery Services 800 Scenic Drive Modesto, CA 95350 (888) 376-6246	Stanislaus County Behavioral Health & Recovery Services 800 Scenic Drive Modesto, CA 95350 (888) 376-6246

SECTION 15: BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

This grid summarizes how behavioral health services should be handled for Medi-Cal patients of all ages:

Type of Referral	HPSJ (Beacon/CHIPA)	County Behavioral Health
Mental Health (Mild to Moderate)	X	
Mental Health (Severe)		X
Substance Abuse		X