



Alaska Division of Health Care Services
INFORMATION RELEASE
July 2010

TO: HOSPITAL PROVIDERS

**FROM: Qualis Health
for State of Alaska, Division of Health Care Services**

SUBJECT: Updates on Processes and Procedure

UPDATE Alaska Medicaid Pre-authorization List

Qualis Health reviews Alaska Medicaid behavioral health admissions to both inpatient and residential treatment facilities in and out of state. Episodically, there are admissions to inpatient facilities where the patient will have a primary psychiatric diagnosis (ICD9 290.00-316.00) but is receiving medical treatment and stabilization. These admissions are typically for alcohol and chemical detoxification and a patient requires medical stabilization which is excluded from the Alaska Medicaid Behavioral Health contract.

As a result, Qualis Health has modified the Alaska Medicaid pre-authorization list (found on www.qualishealth.org) to now require review for admissions with a primary diagnosis of 290.00-316.00 where the admission is more related to a medical reason rather than a psychiatric reason and where the Qualis Health behavioral health staff have determined they will not review the admission.

If you have reviews of this nature that require review before the claim can be paid or if you have further questions regarding this notice please notify Grace Ingram at (907) 550-7610, Gracei@qualishealth.org or Deon Westmorland at (206) 288-2347, Deonw@qualishealth.org