

2010 Changes to Mental Health and Substance Abuse Treatment Benefits in Lehigh's Medical Coverage Plans

In accordance with the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity Act and Addiction Equity Act, the annual and lifetime day and visit limits for mental health and substance abuse treatment benefits have been removed from all four of the University's medical coverage options.

There are no other changes for these benefits under the Keystone Health Plan Central HMO and the Preferred Provider Organization 100 plans.

A new requirement for pre-authorization of inpatient services, partial hospitalization, and intensive out-patient treatment programs for mental health and substance abuse treatment has been added to the Comprehensive Major Medical (CMM) and Preferred Provider Organization 80 (PPO-80). This pre-authorization requirement is consistent with the same type of pre-authorization required for non-emergency medical care. The pre-authorization process will be administered by Magellan Health Services on behalf of Capital Blue Cross.

There are no changes being made to the benefit available for outpatient counseling under the CMM and PPO-80 plans. The benefit level and networks of participating providers are not being changed. Participants in these plans are not required to see Magellan Health Services providers and they may continue to use the same providers they are using today.