

Office of Mental Health And Substance Abuse Services  
Bureau of Policy and Program Development

**HealthChoices Behavioral Health**

**Policy Clarification**

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*Issue Clarification #: 01-12*  
*Date of Receipt: 01/24/12*

*Applicability: All Zones*  
*Source Documentation:*

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***Submitted by: Various Primary Contractors and Behavioral Health Managed Care Plans.***

***County Authority: Various***

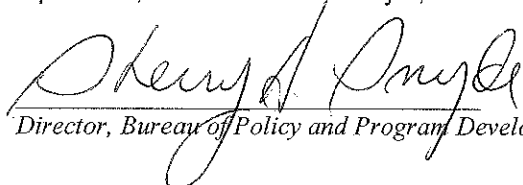
***Topic Area: Psychiatric Rehabilitation Service -Transportation***

**Question:** How should transportation costs for psychiatric rehabilitation service (PRS) providers be paid and reported in the HealthChoices Behavioral Health Program?

**Background:** Transporting clients is not an allowable cost (direct or indirect) that can be included in the PRS rate. Transportation is a separate State Plan service and can't be bundled into the PRS rate. The most straightforward way to cover the cost of transportation to and from PRS is to cover the costs with administrative funds.

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**OMHSAS Answer/Response:** Costs for PRS transportation were included only in the administrative component of the rates. Each Primary Contractor and/or its BH-MCO should require the PRS providers to empower recipients to use other independent means of transportation. For reporting purposes, the PRS transportation component must be shown separately from PRS and included under administrative costs. If transportation costs are currently included in the provider fee and reported in the PLE data that way, a separate report must be submitted to the OMHSAS Division of Medicaid Finance that provides a separate accounting of treatment vs. transportation costs in order that the costs are included the appropriate portion of the capitation rates in the future. In addition, if transportation costs are currently included in the provider fee, the transportation component will need to be separated from the treatment fee and billed and paid for separately, effective as soon as possible, but no later than July 1, 2012.

  
Director, Bureau of Policy and Program Development

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Date: 5/3/12