

MEMORANDUM

TO: Smoky Mountain Center LME DD Providers

FROM: Steve Puckett, Clinical Operations Director

DATE: March 17, 2006

SUBJECT: Transition of Services for DD Consumers Receiving CBS

As you know, March 19, 2006 is the last day for delivering CBS under the NC Medicaid program. We are encouraged by the number of applications submitted and the number of applications already approved for DD consumers currently receiving CBS to go onto the CAP Plan. However, many consumers' MR2s have not yet been processed meaning that they and their providers will not know what services will be available to them on March 20.

The Division of MH/DD/SA Services has provided guidelines for interim coverage for these consumers. Following is SMC procedure for implementing that coverage.

- Providers should complete the attached *Transitional Developmental Therapy Authorization Request*, also posted on SMC's website (www.smokymountaincenter.com) and submit it to the LME per instructions printed on the form. One form should be completed and submitted for each DD consumer presently receiving CBS for whom an MR2 request for CAP services is pending.
- The Developmental Therapy authorization is to be used only for those individuals found to be ineligible by the Developmental Center for ICF-MR level of care. If approved for ICF-MR level of care, services provided starting 3/20/06 will be billed under CAP and not Developmental Therapy.
- The amount of Developmental Therapy requested may not exceed the amount of CBS that the consumer is currently receiving. If the consumer can be served appropriately with a lower amount, please request the lower amount.
- Initial authorizations will be for short periods of time, probably about two weeks, based on the assumption that answers will be received on most MR2s by then.
- SMC's State allocation for Developmental Therapy for the remainder of FY 05-06 would sustain this level of service for only a few weeks. If the majority of consumers with pending MR2s were not approved, we anticipate that there would be major reductions of coverage for these consumers. We hope that all or most consumers with pending MR2s will be approved for CAP services, alleviating this problem.

- Because of the very short notice of these procedures before 3/20, SMC will accept these retrospective authorization requests for services starting 3/20/06 through 3/27/06 only. Thereafter, retrospective authorization requests will not be honored.

Thank you for your patience during this transition time, and for partnering with SMC to ensure continuity of services for our consumers.