

DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

1600 • 9TH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
(916) 654-2378



January 29, 1998

DMH INFORMATION NOTICE NO.: 98-01

TO: LOCAL MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTORS
LOCAL MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM CHIEFS
LOCAL MENTAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATORS
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS
CHAIRPERSONS, LOCAL MENTAL HEALTH BOARDS

SUBJECT: SERVICE FUNCTION CODING OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
RENDERED TO HOSPITAL INPATIENTS

With the implementation of the Specialty Mental Health Services (Phase II) Consolidation, it is necessary for the Department of Mental Health (DMH) to be able to distinguish professional services provided to beneficiaries who are inpatients of Fee-for-Service Medi-Cal hospitals from other kinds of services. A minor change in service function coding is required for both reimbursement and data analysis purposes and will assist DMH in demonstrating the effectiveness of our joint efforts under the federal waiver.

As of the date your county implements Phase II, or as soon as is practicable thereafter, please begin to use outpatient service function codes ending only in "9" on Short-Doyle/Medi-Cal claims and cost reports to designate professional services rendered to clients in hospital inpatient units. For example, a Medication Support service rendered by a physician would be coded "69", a Crisis Intervention service would be "79", etc.. The coding change will also apply to client data reported to the current Client Data System (CDS) and its successor, the Client and Services Information (CSI) system.

If you have any questions on this notice, please call Stan Johnson at (916) 654-3060.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Linda A. Powell".

LINDA A. POWELL
Deputy Director
Administrative Services