

**South Carolina**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**  
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**www.scdhhs.gov**

March 11, 2009

Phys  
Hosp

# MEDICAID BULLETIN

**TO: Physicians, Hospitals, and Managed Care Providers**

**SUBJECT: Prior Authorization - Inpatient Psychiatric Disorders**

Effective with dates of service on or after April 1, 2009, the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) will require Prior Authorization for all acute (non-state owned) inpatient admissions with the primary diagnoses of Conduct Disorder, Diagnoses Codes 312.0 - 312.9 and Oppositional Defiant Disorder, Diagnosis Code 313.81.

Qualis Health, the Medicaid Quality Improvement Organization (QIO), will perform the review and will accept prior authorization review requests via facsimile, phone or mail. Qualis Health's nurse reviewers will screen the medical information provided using InterQual criteria. It is the responsibility of the attending physician to submit the Request for Prior Approval Review form and all current medical documents that support the medical necessity of the admission to:

Qualis Health  
Attn: SC Medicaid Prior Approval Review  
440 Knox Abbott Drive, Suite 220  
Cayce, South Carolina 29033  
Or  
Fax (877) 717 - 8594

If criteria are met, the admission will be approved and an authorization number assigned. Qualis Health will call the physician's office staff with the authorization number. For emergency or urgent admissions, providers must contact Qualis Health for authorization within 24 hours of the date of the admission.

Qualis Health will offer Webinars/teleconferences to discuss the above changes and the prior authorization process on Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009 and on Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009 from 11:30 AM-12:30 PM. You are invited to log on to the Qualis website at [www.qualishealth.org](http://www.qualishealth.org), select South Carolina; Upcoming Provider Education; Webinar for Prior Authorization and follow the instructions provided.

Any questions concerning Qualis Health processes should be directed to the Qualis Health staff at (877) 717-8592 or (877) 717-8594 (fax). Questions regarding this Medicaid Bulletin should be directed to the Division of Hospital Services at (803) 898-2665. Thank you for your continued support of South Carolina Medicaid.

/S/  
Emma Forkner  
Director

EF/mgvb

**Note:** To receive Medicaid bulletins by email, please register at <http://bulletin.scdhhs.gov/>.  
To sign up for Electronic Funds Transfer of your Medicaid payment, please go to <http://www.dhhs.state.sc.us/dhhsnew/hipaa/index.asp> and select "Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) for instructions.