



Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H., Secretary

MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
MCO Transmittal No. 183
August 23, 2023

TO: Managed Care Organizations
 Special Pediatric Hospitals

FROM: Sandra Kick, Director *Sandra E. Kick*
 Medical Benefits Management

RE: Clarification of Policy for Coverage of Behavioral Health Ancillary Services at
 Special Pediatric Hospitals

NOTE: **Please ensure that the appropriate staff members in your organization are informed of the content of this transmittal.**

The purpose of this transmittal is to clarify the payer responsibility for ancillary behavioral health services provided to beneficiaries admitted to special pediatric hospitals with a primary somatic diagnosis.

The payer responsibility for ancillary services is based on the primary diagnosis for the inpatient admission. The MCOs are responsible for the whole inpatient claim, including ancillaries, in accordance with COMAR 10.67.06.07H when the primary diagnosis for the inpatient admission is somatic. The MCOs are not responsible for ancillary services when the primary diagnosis for the inpatient admission is a behavioral health diagnosis as set forth in COMAR 10.67.08.02.

MCOs shall configure their systems to allow for special pediatric hospitals to bill for behavioral health treatment/services revenue codes (090x and 091x series).

The Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization is responsible for reimbursement of professional fees associated with these ancillary behavioral health services when rendered by specialty mental health practitioners defined in COMAR 10.09.59.04A. Specialty mental health practitioners should bill a primary behavioral health diagnosis listed in COMAR 10.67.08.02 on a CMS-1500 form.

For policy questions related to this transmittal, please contact Aran Kim, Chief, Division of HealthChoice Provider Network Management at aran.kim@maryland.gov.