

## Utilization Management: Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities (PRTF)

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Community Behavioral Health (CBH) is modifying the process for initial and continued authorization requests of Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities (PRTF). CBH is making these changes in order to provide PRTFs considering acceptance with the most up-to-date information and increase collaboration with the provider network on reviewing medical necessity for continued authorization requests.

### *Initial authorization requests:*

For initial authorization requests, packet submission will remain a requirement. Comprehensive Biopsychosocial Evaluations/Re-evaluations (CBE/CBR) must be completed by a psychiatrist within 30 days of submission to CBH and include all required elements of CBE/CBR. Initial authorization timeframes will be changed from 120 days to 30 days.

### *Continued authorization requests:*

For continued authorization requests, packet submission to CBH will no longer be necessary.

CBH will make medical necessity determinations based on the information presented during monthly interagency meetings, for up to 30 days. CBH will participate in these meetings along with all involved parties. Providers must keep documentation in the member's health record of the monthly interagency meetings. The psychiatrist must sign off on the monthly interagency meeting documentation, indicating if PRTF level of care continues to be medically necessary. Continued authorization timeframes will be changed from 120 days to 30 days.

During treatment, CBH will require a CBE/CBR to be completed every six months. Evaluations must be completed within 30 days of submission to CBH and include all required elements.

Please see the CBH Provider Manual for more information on the required elements of CBE/CBR.

These changes go into effect 30 days from the date of release.

Please direct questions regarding this Bulletin to Kristen Vescio, Clinical Coordinator for PRTF at [Kristen.Vescio@phila.gov](mailto:Kristen.Vescio@phila.gov).