Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner (CRNP) Requirements for Psychiatric Outpatient Services

CRNP Utilization

This Bulletin refers specifically to the following services designated for the CRNP within the Outpatient Psychiatric setting:

- Outpatient Psychiatric-Medication Management-CRNP (300-123)
- Outpatient Psychiatric-CRNP Evaluation (300-152) *

*CRNPs are not approved as “sign-off” designees for completion of a Comprehensive Biopsychosocial Evaluation/Reevaluation (CBE/R), as Licensed Psychologists and Psychiatrists remain as the only recognized participant signatories for their respective CBE/Rs.

Effective December 8, 2021:

- CRNPs providing the two outpatient levels of care described above must be certified by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Board of Nursing in a Psychiatric/Mental Health specialty area.

  - Organizational providers (facilities) may utilize CRNPs with a certification other than Psychiatric/Mental Health if the CRNP obtains a mental health certification within 2 years of being hired or contracted by the psychiatric outpatient clinic. (55 PA Code 5200.3)

  - Independent and group practitioners may not waive this requirement and must be certified in a Psychiatric/Mental Health field prior to credentialing.

- CRNPs serving children and/or adolescents must also have a certification in a Child/Adolescent related field, or clinical experience working with this population.

- The collaborating physician must be a board-certified child psychiatrist if:

  - The CRNP’s caseload is made up of 75% or more children and/or adolescents, or
Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner (CRNP) Requirements for Psychiatric Outpatient Services

» The CRNP has less than five years of experience serving children and/or adolescents.

⇒ The collaborating physician must be a psychiatrist providing services at the same physical location as the CRNP.

⇒ CRNPs without certification in a Psychiatric/Mental Health field must receive at least one hour of documented supervision per week with one of the following: the collaborating physician, the substitute collaborating physician, or the medical director. Supervision must include a chart review with feedback from the physician. CRNPs with certification in a Psychiatric/Mental Health field must receive no less than one hour of documented supervision monthly, as described above.

This Provider Bulletin supersedes Provider Bulletin #16-08, Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner (CRNP) Requirements for Psychiatric Outpatient Services, December 2, 2016.

For further information on this Provider Bulletin, please contact CBH.ComplianceContact@phila.gov.