

Required Use of Initial Assessment Authorizations

This Bulletin is to inform providers about updates to authorization procedures for Intensive Behavioral Health Services (IBHS). These changes are being made to enhance the data CBH has available regarding the completion of Assessment Activities as required by IBHS regulations.

Effective July 1, 2023, CBH will require all activities completed as a part of the IBHS Assessment Process to be billed against IBHS Initial Assessment or IBHS-ABA Initial Assessment (LOC CODES).

Per CBH Provider Bulletin 23-04, submission of Written Orders is required for all IBHS services effective June 1, 2023. At that time, CBH will authorize as follows:

- ➔ **Requests for Initial Assessment and Treatment (Individual and Group Services):** Providers will continue to be provided with authorizations for LOC 425-4 (Assessment) and 425-5 (Initial Treatment). Providers will bill assessment activities against LOC 425-4 (Assessment), and any Initial Treatment activities against 425-5 (Initial Treatment).
- ➔ **Requests for Initial Assessment and Treatment (ABA):** Providers will continue to be provided with authorizations for LOC 425-6 (Assessment- ABA) and 425-7 (Initial Treatment- ABA). Providers will bill assessment activities against LOC 425-6 (Assessment- ABA), and any Initial Treatment activities against 425-7 (Initial Treatment- ABA).
- ➔ **Requests for “Direct to Treatment” (Individual and Group Services):** CBH will issue authorizations for services as requested in the Written Order. In addition, CBH will issue an authorization for LOC 425-4 (Assessment). All assessment activities that take place in accordance with the IBHS regulations during the first 30 days of treatment must be billed against LOC 425-4 (Assessment).
- ➔ **Requests for “Direct to Treatment” (ABA):** CBH will issue authorizations for services as requested in the Written Order. In addition, CBH will issue an authorization for LOC 425-6 (Assessment-ABA). All assessment activities that take place in accordance with the IBHS regulations during the first 45 days of treatment must be billed against LOC 425-6 (Assessment-ABA).