

To: FAHC, Brattleboro Retreat, RPMC, CVH, Windham Center, VAHHS

From: Thomas Simpatico, MD  
Chief Medical Officer

Aaron French, MSN, RN, BC  
Deputy Commissioner, Health Services and Managed Care

Date: October 1, 2013

Re: Medically Managed Opioid Detoxification

Beginning January 1, 2014 medically managed opioid detoxification as the primary diagnosis will no longer be reimbursable at an inpatient level of care by Vermont Medicaid. For patients presenting with complicating medical and/or psychiatric conditions as well as the need for opioid detoxification, the medical and/or psychiatric primary diagnosis must meet inpatient level of care criteria in order to be reimbursable. All psychiatric and non-opioid detoxification inpatient services for both in-state and out-of-state admissions will continue to follow the current authorization process and reimbursement standards.

For all psychiatric and detoxification admissions, the admitting facility must complete the *Vermont Medicaid Admission Notification Form for Psychiatric Inpatient Services* and fax it to the DVHA at **1-855-275-1212** within 24 hours or next business day of an urgent or emergent admission. All individuals enrolled in CRT, children and adolescents will continue to require a screening by a Community Mental Health Center prior to admission. Notification forms are posted on the DVHA website at <http://dvha.vermont.gov/for-providers/forms-1>.

Historically, inpatient treatment for opioid detoxification had been covered due to the shortage of qualified providers to deliver this care in our local communities. With the advent of the Hub & Spoke Programs throughout the state coming on line, evidence based guidelines support outpatient treatment program for opioid detoxification.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at 802-879-5900