

Update on Medicaid Behavioral Health Redesign and Trading Partner Testing

In an effort to keep Medicaid behavioral health providers and trading partners informed on the status of behavioral health redesign, the Ohio Departments of Medicaid (ODM) and Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) provide the following updates:

- **Behavioral health redesign WILL NOT go into effect on July 1, 2017 in deference to the legislative budget process.** Accordingly, ODM will continue the existing mental health and substance use disorder service codes, billing logic, rates and policies until a future date for BH Redesign implementation is determined. See more details on the background for this decision in the [white paper](#) recently posted to the BH Redesign website.
- As previously scheduled, ODM is temporarily closing trading partner testing for electronic data interchange files using the new behavioral health codes and policy. **EDI testing for Medicaid behavioral health redesign claims will close Friday, June 23, 2017 at midnight.** Test claims submitted prior to this time will be processed overnight.
- ODM will continue staffing the Rapid Response telephone lines (1-800-686-1516, Option 9) in order to respond to questions from providers or trading partners and help prepare for the resumption of EDI testing and ultimate implementation of BH Redesign.
- Qualified Ohio hospitals who offer outpatient community behavioral health services may begin implementing the new behavioral health code set and policies beginning August 1, 2017. This is possible because hospitals are ready to proceed with the Medicaid billing methodology for outpatient hospital services, which is separate from the billing methodology for community behavioral health providers.

ODM and OhioMHAS respect the JCARR and biennial budget deliberations and await their outcome regarding the future implementation of BH Redesign. We will provide updates to the community behavioral health field as soon as possible via subsequent editions of the MITS BITS, the OhioMHAS News and provider messages posted on the MITS Portal. Look for updated information after July 1st.