

**NH Department of Health and Human Services
Substance Use Disorder Treatment Recovery Access Section
1115(a) Research and Demonstration Waiver
Proposed Amendment #2 Request: Mental Health Services for
Medicaid Beneficiaries with Serious Mental Illness (SMI)**

Notice is hereby given that, as part of its overall approach to address the increase in Emergency Department boarding and to support the comprehensive, integrated continuum of mental health treatments and care available in the state, the NH Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is applying for an amendment to its Section 1115(a) Research and Demonstration Waiver from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). This amendment will enable DHHS to claim federal reimbursement for payment of services provided to Medicaid beneficiaries ages 21-64 receiving short-term inpatient psychiatric treatment or short-term residential mental health treatment in an Institution for Mental Disease (IMD). DHHS is interested in public input on this proposed amendment to the Substance Use Disorder Treatment and Recovery Access (SUD-TRA) Section 1115(a) Research and Demonstration Waiver. DHHS is convening two public hearings to seek public input on this amendment that will enable New Hampshire to support its continuum of mental health treatments and care and receive federal reimbursement for individuals receiving short-term mental health services at IMDs. Comments will also be considered at the Medical Care Advisory Committee (MCAC) meeting in August. All MCAC meetings are open to the public.

The hearings will be held:

- Monday, August 9, 2021 from 5:30 - 7:00 pm at Fred H. Brown Building Auditorium, 129 Pleasant Street, Concord, NH 03301
- Wednesday, August 11, 2021 from 6:00 - 7:30 pm at Harbor Homes – Partnership for Successful Living, 77 Northeastern Boulevard, Nashua, NH 03062

The Medical Care Advisory Committee meeting will be held:

- Monday, August 16, 2021 from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Fred H. Brown Building Auditorium, 129 Pleasant Street, Concord, NH 03301

The proposed amendment is available for public review at: <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/ombp/medicaid/documents/smi-demo-amendment-draft.pdf>. The services proposed within the amendment include those that are in alignment with the existing mental health delivery system for inpatient psychiatric and residential mental health treatment and are not intended to reduce or replace services provided in less restrictive settings. All public comments must be received by 4:30 pm on Tuesday, August 31, 2021.

Comments will be accepted: (1) at either of the two scheduled public hearings referenced above; (2) at the MCAC meeting referenced above; (3) emailed to IMDSMIAmendment@DHHS.NH.Gov; or (4) mailed to John Poirier, NH Department of Health and Human Services, Attn: SUD-TRA Demonstration Amendment #2, 129 Pleasant St, Concord, NH 03301.