

CERTIFIED PSYCHIATRIC NURSE SPECIALIST

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I. ISSUE

Certified Psychiatric Nurse Specialist.

II. POLICY

A. A certified psychiatric nurse specialist may provide covered care independent of physician referral and supervision. A certified psychiatric nurse specialist is an individual who:

1. Is a licensed, registered nurse; and
2. Has at least a master's degree in nursing with a specialization in psychiatric and mental health nursing; and
3. Has had at least two years of post-master's degree practice in the field of psychiatric and mental health nursing, including an average of eight hours of direct patient contact per week; or
4. Is certified by the American Nurses Association through the American Nurses Credentialing Center.

B. Claims for mental health services provided by a certified psychiatric nurse specialist are subject to the limitations on psychiatric procedures.

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