

PSYCHIATRIC PARTIAL HOSPITALIZATION PROGRAM (PHP) CERTIFICATION PROCESS BEFORE NOVEMBER 30, 2009, AND THEREAFTER, FOR ONLY FREESTANDING PHPs

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I. ISSUE

Process for **Freestanding** Psychiatric Partial Hospitalization Program (PHP) Certification and Hospital-Based PHPs Before November 30, 2009.

II. DESCRIPTION

A psychiatric PHP is a treatment setting capable of providing an interdisciplinary program of medical therapeutic services at least **three** hours per day, **five** days per week, which may embrace day, evening, night and weekend treatment programs which employ an integrated, comprehensive and complementary schedule of recognized treatment approaches. Partial hospitalization is a time-limited, ambulatory, active treatment program that offers therapeutically intensive, coordinated, and structured clinical services within a stable therapeutic environment. Partial hospitalization is an appropriate setting for crisis stabilization, treatment of partially stabilized mental health disorders, and a transition from an inpatient program when medically necessary to avoid a serious deterioration in functioning.

III. POLICY

A. **Freestanding** PHPs must enter into a participation agreement, and be accredited and in substantial compliance with the **Comprehensive Accreditation Manual for Behavioral Health Care (CAMBHC)** of the Joint Commission (JC). **This also applies to hospital-based PHPs providing care before November 30, 2009.**

B. A complete application for certification as an authorized **freestanding** psychiatric **PHP** consists of an application and agreement signed and dated by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the program.

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