

POLICY BULLETIN

No. 15-02

Issued Date: December 30, 2015

Effective Date: January 1, 2016

Subject: DDAP 2015-2020 Treatment Manual Replacement

The Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP) has replaced the 2015-2020 Treatment Manual. The new version of the Treatment Manual is published on our website (www.ddap.pa.gov) under the DDAP Document Library, Manuals page.

This update includes the addition and clarification of requirements for the SCAs and their contracted treatment and case management providers and replaces all prior versions of the Treatment Manual entirely.

The Sections of the 2015-2020 Treatment Manual that have been most significantly impacted are noted below; however, this list is not inclusive of all of the changes made to the Manual. It is imperative that the SCA review the Manual in its entirety.

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| Part 3 | Training for Contracted Drug and Alcohol Treatment Providers (formerly Part 8). <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Removed “Adolescent Drug Abuse” as a required training.• Added a statement to allow exemptions from Screening & Assessment and Addictions 101. |
| Part 4 & 5 | Removed details on the SCA Treatment Needs Assessment and the SCA Treatment Plan. DDAP will issue instructions to the SCAs regarding these two requirements. |
| Section 6.00 | Special Populations <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overdose survivors and veterans have been added as priority populations.• ALL priority populations now have to be offered immediate admission to the recommended level of care.• If the SCA chooses to restrict access to assessment and/or admission to treatment, such restrictions cannot apply to any of the priority populations. |

- Section 6.04 Overdose Survivors – SCAs must develop and maintain a plan for screening, assessment, treatment, and tracking of individuals who have survived a recent overdose. Types of models for post-overdose referral to treatment (previously referred to as “warm handoff”) are identified.
- Section 6.05 Veterans – SCAs cannot deny funding to a veteran regardless of the veteran’s eligibility status for VA benefits.
- Section 7.00 Continuum of Care-SCAs must have an executed contract with a provider of medically monitored long term residential treatment for adults. Note that Section 4.01 of the DDAP Operations Manual also reflects the addition of this requirement.
- Section 7.01 Halfway House Services – If the location of a halfway house changes, the SCA must submit a new request to DDAP for approval of the halfway house at least 90 days (previously 60 days) in advance of the projected date of admissions.
- Section 9.02 Assessment (Adults) – Removed a statement that allowed individuals to be admitted to rehab prior to the completion of a level of care assessment. A level of care assessment must be completed in its entirety prior to referring to the appropriate level of care, except when the individual is in need of detoxification.
- Section 10.02 Assessment (Adolescents) – Removed a statement that allowed individuals to be admitted to rehab prior to the completion of a level of care assessment. A level of care assessment must be completed in its entirety prior to referring to the appropriate level of care, except when the individual is in need of detoxification.
- Section 9.03 Coordination of Services (Adults) – New requirements replace “Case Coordination” requirements. The SCA must ensure that coordination of services occurs for each individual receiving services paid for by the SCA.
It is imperative that the SCA reviews this Section closely as the requirements have been entirely revised and as such are not delineated in this Bulletin.
- Section 10.03 Coordination of Services (Adolescents) – New requirements replace “Case Coordination” requirements. The SCA must ensure that coordination of services occurs for each individual receiving services paid for by the SCA.
It is imperative that the SCA reviews this Section closely as the requirements have been entirely revised and as such are not delineated in this Bulletin.
- Section 9.07 Core Training (Adults) – All individuals performing or supervising level of care assessments for adults must meet the training requirements for the current edition of the PCPC.
- Section 10.07 Core Training (Adolescents) – Removed requirement for Adolescent Drug Abuse training.

Part 12.00 Miscellaneous – Requires all SCAs to participate in the County Medical Assistance Jail Process

The requirements of the Treatment Manual are effective January 1, 2016; however, DDAP understands that the SCAs may have difficulty implementing all of these changes at once. As such, DDAP will permit the SCAs to submit an implementation plan for Sections 6.04, 9.03, 10.03 and Part12.00 by February 1, 2016. The plan must include how the SCA is working toward implementation for each Section/Part and the timeframe for implementation.

This plan must be submitted to the SCA’s Project Officer in the County Program Oversight Section. At the discretion of Project Officer, additional information may be requested and updates to the plan may be required throughout the period of the plan implementation.

Questions regarding this Policy Bulletin may be directed to Jeff Geibel or Jodi Skiles in DDAP’s Division of Treatment or to the SCA’s Project Officer in DDAP’s County Program Oversight Section.