

 <p>SPOKANE COUNTY Regional Support Network Prepaid Inpatient Health Plan</p>	Policy Title: Practice Guidelines	
	Signature: Signature on file	Revised:
	Christine Barada, Director Community Services, Housing and Community Development	Reviewed: 01-16-07
	Signature Date: January 26, 2007	Signing by authority of Res. No. 2007-0038

References

42 CFR 438.236

Scope

SCRSN/PIHP and its contracted providers.

Policy

SCRSN/PIHP shall adopt practice guidelines that meet requirements of CFR 438.236.

They shall:

- be based on valid and reliable clinical evidence or a consensus of health care professionals in the particular field;
- consider the needs of SCRSN/PIHP's enrollees;
- be adopted in consultation with contracting health care professionals;
- be reviewed and updated periodically as appropriate; and
- be disseminated to all affected providers and upon request to enrollees.

Decisions for utilization management, enrollee education, coverage of services, and other areas to which the guideline apply shall be consistent with the guidelines.

Procedures/Mechanisms

Two practice guidelines will be adopted by the SCRSN on an annual basis, unless otherwise directed by MHD.

The Clinical Practice Guidelines adopted will be based on valid and reliable clinical evidence or a consensus of health care professionals in the particular field. Examples of such guidelines include the American Psychiatric Association's Clinical Practice Guidelines or Expert Consensus Series Guidelines.

The Clinical Practice Guidelines adopted will consider the needs of SCRSN/PIHP's enrollees. SCRSN staff will examine the prevalence of the diagnosis or condition that a clinical practice guideline targets to ensure there is a probability that a significant portion of members will benefit from adoption of the guideline. The SCRSN/PIHP Quality Management Committee will also review and approve all Clinical Practice Guidelines. The providers who participate in the SCRSN/PIHP Quality Management Committee will be asked to gather feedback about the proposed Clinical Practice Guideline from their peers and bring this feedback to the SCRSN/PIHP Quality Management Committee for consideration.

Each year, the SCRSN/PIHP Quality Management Committee will review and update the Clinical Practice Guidelines being used in the PIHP.

The Clinical Practice Guidelines adopted by the SCRSN/PIHP Quality Management Committee will be disseminated to all affected providers through trainings and publication on the SCRSN/PIHP Web site.

Guidelines will also be distributed to enrollees upon request.