HEALTH PLAN POLICY				
Title: Coordination between the BH Provider and the PCP		Number: MUM20 Revision: F		
Department: Medical Management Sub-Depart		ment: Utilization Management		
Applicable Lines of Business: □ Children's Health Insurance Plan ⊠ Medicare				
☐ Commercial Insured		☐ Non-Insured Business		
☑ Health Insurance Exchange		e ⊠ USFHP		
☐ Medicaid				
Effective Date: 09/28/2017				
Revision Date(s): 09/20/2018, 01/16/2020, 12/2	$21/202\overline{0, 12/1}$	4/2021, 11/21/2022, 05/08/2024		

PURPOSE:

This policy defines the responsibilities of CHP when coordinating care between Primary Care Providers (PCPs) and Behavioral Health Providers. This policy also includes the coordination of care expectations between a Behavioral Health provider and a Primary Care Provider for members with Serious Mental Illness functions.

DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS:

- **Primacry Care Provider (PCP)** A health care practitioner (a physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner) chosen by or assigned to a member that provides primary care and other medical services.
- Qualified Health Care Professional A Primary Care Physician (PCP), Speciality Care Physician (SPC), or other licensed health care provider who is acting within their scope of practice and who possesses a clinical background, including training and expertise, related to the particular illness, disease or condition associated with the request for a second opinion.
- Qualified Service Provider A licensed/certified and credentialed behavioral health facility, professional, or provider that delivers covered behavioral health services as described in the Texas Covered Behavioral Health Services Guide.
- **Referral** Any oral, written, faxed, or electronic request for physical health or behavioral health services made by any person, or person's legal guardian, family member, Primary Care Physician/Practitioner, hospital, jail, court, probation and parole officer, tribal government, school, or other State or community agency to CHRISTUS Health Plan, qualified services providers or qualified health care professionals.

POLICY:

- 1. CHRISTUS Health Plan requires, through Provider contract provisions, that Primary Care Providers (PCPs) have screening and evaluation procedures for the detection and treatment of, or referral for, any known or suspected Behavioral Health problems and disorders.
- 2. PCPs may provide any clinically appropriate Behavioral Health Services within the scope of their practice.
- 3. CHRISTUS Health Plan provides training to Network PCPs on how to screen for and identify behavioral health disorders, the health plan's referral process for Behavioral Health Services, and clinical coordination requirements for such services.

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- 4. CHRISTUS Health Plan provides training on coordination and quality of care such as behavioral health screening techniques for PCPs and new models of behavioral health interventions.
- 5. CHRISTUS Health Plan maintains and disseminate policies regarding clinical coordination between Behavioral Health Service Providers and PCPs.
- 6. CHRISTUS Health plan requires that its contracted Behavioral Health Service Providers refer Members with known or suspected and untreated physical health problems or disorders to their PCP for examination and treatment, with the Member's or the Member's legal guardian's consent. Behavioral Health Providers may only provide physical Health Care Services if they are licensed to do so. This requirement is specified in the CHRISTUS Provider Manuals.
- 7. CHRISTUS Health Plan requires that behavioral health Providers send initial and quarterly (or more frequently if clinically indicated) summary reports of a Members' behavioral health status to the PCP, with the Member's or the Member's legal guardian's consent. This requirement is specified in all Provider Manuals.

REFERENCES:

• UMCC 8.1.15.4 Coordination between the BH Provider and the PCP

RELATED DOCUMENTS:

None

REVISION HISTORY:

Revision	Date	Description of Change	Approval Committee
New	09/28/2017	Initial release.	Board of Directors
A	09/20/2018	Annual review - product lines updated.	Executive Leadership
В	01/16/2020	Annual review. No change to policy. Made minor	Executive Leadership
		formatting corrections.	
С	12/21/2020	Annual review. No change to policy.	Executive Leadership
D	12/14/2021	Annual review. Updated References.	Executive Leadership
Е	11/21/2022	Annual review. No change to policy content.	Executive Leadership
F	05/08/2024	Annual review. Updated formatting to match template.	P & P Committee
		Revised purpose statement to more accurately address	
		the scope of information. Updated definitions and	
		removed references that are no longer applicable.	