

BULLETIN NUMBER: 13-2019
TITLE: MENTAL HEALTH & SUBSTANCE ABUSE
DATE: OCTOBER 1, 2018

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this bulletin is to clarify coverage for mental health and substance abuse such as outpatient behavioral health treatment, inpatient/partial inpatient services under the NHI plan. Part of NHI plan exclusions is coverage for mental health and substance abuse treatment.

BACKGROUND:

The Plan only covers for services deemed medically necessary which are healthcare services, medication, supplies needed to prevent, diagnose, or treat an illness, injury, condition or its symptoms that meets accepted standard of practice. Care of mental health and substance abuse at the Belau National Hospital is subsidized by the Palau National Government and patients are subject to pay a small percentage as applied in the Ministry of Health Sliding Fee Schedule.

INTERPRETATION:

OFF-ISLAND REFERRAL & LOCAL INPATIENT CARE

- Inpatient and outpatient care provided to evaluate, diagnose and treat mental health condition or substance abuse is not covered under the plan, but is payable under MSA
- Care includes behavioral health treatment, counseling, and psychotherapy.
- Inpatient care for alcohol and substance abuse for the purpose of detoxification and rehabilitation is not covered under the plan.
- Care for Mental Health and Substance abuse is not covered Off-island under the plan
- MSA Payable