

~~2. Establish performance standards for providers in the delivery system; and~~

~~3. Establish procedures to ensure appropriate and timely referrals from managed care organizations to the delivery system that include:~~

~~A. Specification of the diagnoses and conditions eligible for referral to the delivery system;~~

~~B. Training and clinical guidance in appropriate use of the delivery system for managed care organization primary care providers;~~

~~C. Preauthorization by the utilization review agent of the delivery system; and~~

~~D. Penalties for a pattern of improper referrals.~~

~~(iii) The Department shall collaborate with managed care organizations to develop standards and guidelines for the provision of specialty mental health services.~~

~~(iv) The delivery system shall:~~

~~1. Provide all specialty mental health services needed by enrollees;~~

~~2. For enrollees who are dually diagnosed, coordinate the provision of substance abuse services provided by the managed care organizations of the enrollees;~~

~~3. Consist of a network of qualified mental health professionals from all core disciplines;~~

~~4. Include linkages with other public service systems; and~~

~~5. Comply with quality assurance, enrollee input, data collection, and other requirements specified by the Department in regulation.~~

~~(v) [The Department may contract with a managed care organization for delivery of specialty mental health services if the managed care organization meets the performance standards adopted by the Department in regulations.~~

~~(vi) The provisions of § 15-1005 of the Insurance Article apply to the delivery system for specialty mental health services established under this paragraph and administered by an administrative services organization.~~

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2004.

Approved May 11, 2004.