



Release of Information (ROI) Provider Alert

November 6, 2019

Time Sensitive

Effective immediately, in compliance with Federal Regulation 42CFR, Part 2, Optum Maryland will begin collecting updated Release of Information (ROI) forms for all participants who will or may be accessing substance use disorder (SUD) services within the Public Behavioral Health System (PBHS) at the inception of the new ASO contract with Optum Maryland, to begin on January 1, 2020. This ROI is for the purpose of sharing SUD data with your participant's Managed Care Organization (MCO). Even if you have a current ROI on file, a new release will be required before the launch of the new contract. All Maryland Medicaid SUD programs/providers and mental health providers providing substance use treatment to a consumer should request an updated ROI prior to the provision of SUD services in the Optum system. To ensure that all ROI forms are built into the system with the new ASO, Optum Maryland, we are asking that you begin collecting ROIs immediately for all of your participants and faxing them to 855-293-5407. We also ask that you establish a process to ensure that all of your current participants have completed this form and that you have faxed it to Optum Maryland at the above number (also listed on the ROI form). Please use the attached ROI form.

As is the case with the Beacon system, this ROI form will allow Optum Maryland to release authorization and claims data to the participant's MCO and coordinate the participant's care with any provider, primary care or otherwise, as registered on the form. The attached ROI form, developed by Maryland Medicaid and the Behavioral Health Administration (BHA), should be used by all Maryland Medicaid mental health and SUD providers/programs when providing SUD treatment.

Optum is in the process of designing and building an automated system for completion, tracking and retention of these ROI forms. As the launch continues, it may be possible to convert from a system using the listed fax number to an automated system, but to ensure that there is no interruption in data sharing with Maryland MCOs, we are asking that you begin this process **immediately** and provide to Optum Maryland as many completed ROIs as possible, as soon as you possibly can.

As has been the case since the inception of SUD data sharing by the ASO according to 42 CFR, Part 2, we are strongly encouraging you to work with your clients to educate them about the value of data sharing for coordination of care and optimal clinical decision-making. Protection of confidentiality for any data shared is required by 42 CFR, Part 2, and will be strictly observed. Should you have any questions, feel free to contact Karl Steinkraus at Optum Maryland at karl.steinkraus@optum.com.