



# Numbered Advisory Memorandum

**Ted Strickland, Governor**

**Sandra Stephenson, Director**

**Date Issued:** December 23, 2010

**Number:** 12-FY11-2

**Subject:**  Allocations  
 Certification  
 Licensure  
 Medicaid  
 Policy and/or Procedure  
 Other Critical Information

**To:** Provider Organizations

**Originator(s):**

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**Approval(s):**

LST

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**Required Action:**  No  Yes, by this date:

All ODMH policy memoranda are posted on the ODMH Web site at [mentalhealth.ohio.gov/partner-resources](http://mentalhealth.ohio.gov/partner-resources)

**Title:** New Admission and Outcomes System

The Department of Mental Health is pleased to announce the development of a treatment episode outcomes system that will collect four client-level National Outcome Measures (NOMs) on consumers with serious mental illnesses (SMD) and serious emotional disturbances (SED). The Department's collection of client-level NOMs for employment status and school suspensions, living situation, and criminal justice involvement will take place in collaboration with the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services (ODADAS) through creation of a mental health option in the existing Ohio Behavioral Health System (OH-BH).

The new information system is designed to collect outcomes solely on the priority population of consumers with SMD and SED. Data entered into the admissions record will allow providers to document a client's SMD or SED status with indicators that correspond to the Department's new definitions. The system's admissions record will be used to gather basic socio-medical information about the priority population receiving publically-funded services.

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Information about our priority population will be used in grant applications and in advocacy with the legislature.

Piloting of the OH-BH component of the information and outcomes system is scheduled to begin in February 2011, with statewide implementation slated for September 2011. All providers are invited to participate in the piloting of the new system, and those already submitting data to ODADAS through the OH-BH are well positioned to participate. Providers who elect to participate will be asked only to enroll a sample of consumers meeting admission criteria as SMD or SED. The draft definitions of SMD and SED to be used in the pilot are attached to this numbered letter.

The new outcomes system also will use a random, stratified sample of 4,000 consumers to collect information on three additional NOMs required by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA). ODMH staff in the Office of Research and Evaluation (ORE) will sample consumers statewide on perception of care, social functioning, and social connectedness using the Mental Health Statistics Improvement Program (MHSIP) and the Youth Services Survey for Families (YSS-F). Randomized sampling of consumers with SMD and parents of consumers with SED is scheduled to begin in January of 2011.

If you have questions, comments, or wish to participate in the pilot of the mental health option in the OH-BH, please contact ORE Chief, Kraig Knudsen, PhD, or the manager for Treatment Episode Outcomes (TEO), Carol Carstens, PhD. For further information about the draft definitions of SMD and SED, contact Heather King in the Office of Medicaid at: [Heather.King@mh.ohio.gov](mailto:Heather.King@mh.ohio.gov). More detailed information about the TEO system is located on the Department's website at: <http://mentalhealth.ohio.gov/what-we-do/protect-and-monitor/treatment-episode-outcomes/index.shtml>.

**Establishing mental health as a cornerstone of overall health**

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