



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
Aging and Disability Services
Behavioral Health and Service Integration Administration
Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery
P.O. Box 45330, Olympia, WA 98504-5330

September 13, 2013

Licensed Behavioral Health Agencies

To Whom It May Concern:

SUBJECT: NEW BEHAVIORAL HEALTH RULES AND DSM-5 EXEMPTION

The Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR) is issuing your agency an exemption to sections of chapter 388-877A Washington Administrative Code (WAC), chapter 388-877B WAC, and chapter 388-877C WAC, which require agencies to begin using the fifth edition of the American Psychiatric Association's Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5) effective September 1, 2013.

During the process of implementing new behavioral health administrative rules, DBHR determined the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services issued guidance allowing providers to use DSM-IV as well as DSM-5 over the next year. The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) will begin the transition from the International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Edition, Clinical Modification (ICD-9-CM) to the ICD-10-CM, which will be required on September 1, 2014. In order to support the transition to new behavioral health rules while coordinating changes for billing requirements for agencies, DBHR is granting this exemption specific to sections:

- WAC 388-877A-0130
- WAC 388-877B-0230, 0330, 0430, 0440, 0530
- WAC 388-877C-0100 and 0130

The exemption is effective September 1, 2013, and will continue to be in effect until September 1, 2014. This exemption is granted under the authority of WAC 388-877-0300(4).

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this exemption, please contact Dennis Malmer, Office Chief, Certification, Licensing, and Customer Relations, at 360-725-3747 or via email at dennis.malmer@dshs.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Chris Imhoff, LICSW
Director

cc: Dennis Malmer