

PROVIDER ALERT

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH & ADDICTION SERVICES
General Assistance Behavioral Health Program (GABHP)

PROGRAM UPDATE

Issued On June 23, 2010

Reminder – Statutory Requirement to Report Persons Admitted to Substance Abuse Services

This is a reminder that according to **Connecticut State Statute 17a-451(n)**, all substance abuse treatment providers are to report to the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) all persons admitted to each of their licensed programs. This includes both private nonprofit and for-profit providers whether they are DMHAS funded or not. The requirement does not differentiate a "DMHAS" client from other clients. Therefore persons whose treatment services are paid through Medicaid (including those previously paid through General Assistance), Medicare, other public funding or private insurance must be reported to the Department in a manner prescribed.

As the designated Single State Agency for substance abuse services, this requirement is very important to DMHAS' management of the state's system of care. Information from providers regarding clients treated for substance use disorders is used for assessing system capacity and unmet need, analyzing client outcomes, and linked (deidentified) with other state agency data (e.g., arrests, employment, child welfare and other populations) for the study of treatment efficacy. All of these applications of client data enable DMHAS, working with other state agencies, funders and policy makers, to design a service system that is responsive to the constantly changing environment.

As DMHAS implements its new data system, DDaP, over the summer, it will work closely with providers to assure that the reporting of clients admitted to substance abuse treatment programs is being fully reported. DMHAS appreciates all your efforts in making this possible.

Sec.17a-451. (Formerly Sec. 17-210a). Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services. Duties.

(n) The commissioner shall specify uniform methods of keeping statistical information by **public and private agencies**, organizations and individuals, including a client identifier system, and collect and make available relevant statistical information, including the number of persons treated, demographic and

clinical information about such persons, frequency of admission and readmission, frequency and duration of treatment, level or levels of care provided and discharge and referral information. The commissioner shall also require all facilities that ***provide prevention or treatment of alcohol or drug abuse or dependence that are operated or funded by the state or licensed under sections 19a-490 to 19a-503***, inclusive, to implement such methods. The commissioner shall report any licensed facility that fails to report to the licensing authority. The client identifier system shall be subject to the confidentiality requirements set forth in section 17a-688 and regulations adopted thereunder.