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SCOPE:

This policy and procedure applies to Louisiana Healthcare Connections ("LHCC") Network Development and Contracting, and Provider Relations departments.

PURPOSE:

To outline and define the mechanism utilized to monitor the type, number and geographic distribution of Primary Care Providers (PCP), Behavioral Health practitioners and high-volume and high-impact specialists in order to monitor the adequacy of its network and how effectively the network meets the needs, preferences and diversity of its membership. LHCC must meet and/or exceed in order to comply with its contractual requirements with the State of Louisiana's Department of Health and Hospitals ("LDH"), and to identify the health plan departments and staff responsible for meeting, measuring, monitoring and reporting on the adequacy of the health plan's network to its senior management team.

POLICY:

In compliance with its contract with LDH, LHCC will establish, maintain and monitor a network of Affiliated Providers that is sufficient to provide adequate access to all Covered Services taking into consideration: the anticipated number of members for the health plan, the expected utilization of services, the number and types of providers necessary to furnish the Covered Services, the number of Affiliated Providers with closed panels; and the geographic location of the Affiliated Providers and health plan members. This means at a minimum, LHCC shall have signed contracts with the specialty type providers listed in the Network Provider Companion Guide who accept new members and are available on a referral basis and/or in compliance with access and availability requirements.

PROCEDURE:

1. LHCC will develop its network adequacy standards based on the requirements described in the Provider Network Companion Guide in its contract with LDH or, if the contract does not define the requirements, based on generally accepted standards for accessibility so as to provide a network with access at least equal to, or better than, community norms. LHCC shall comply with the linkage ratios specified in the Provider

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Network Companion Guide. The linkage ratio is a calculation of LHCC's network provider to his/her patients who are Louisiana Medicaid managed care enrollees.

- 2. The network shall provide sufficient personnel for the provision of all covered services, including emergency medical care on a 24-hour-a-day, 7-day-a-week basis. The network shall provide core benefits and services within designated time and distance limits.
- 3. LHCC shall provide access to specialty providers, as appropriate, for all members. In accordance with 42 CFR §438.208(c)(4), for enrollees determined to need a course of treatment or regular monitoring, LHCC will have a mechanism in place to allow enrollees to directly access a specialist as appropriate for the enrollee's condition and identified needs. Including specialists with pediatric expertise for children/adolescents when the need for pediatric care is significantly different from the need for adult specialty care. The network shall include access to home health agencies, complying with any applicable federal requirements with respect to such agencies, as amended.
- 4. LHCC shall require all providers to adhere to all requirements set forth in the contract with the State including the Americans with Disabilities (ADA) requirements, and provide physical access for Medicaid members with disabilities. All efforts shall be made to preserve LDH product attachment in the standard contract.
- 5. LHCC will provide or arrange for medically necessary covered services should the network become temporarily insufficient within the contracted service area.
- 6. LHCC shall provide GEO mapping and coding of all network providers for each provider type by the deadline specified in the Schedule of Events, to geographically demonstrate network capacity. LHCC shall provide updated GEO coding to LDH quarterly, or upon material change (as defined in the Glossary) or upon request.

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- 7. LHCC will assess its network adequacy using the following methods and tools:
 - a. At least annually, LHCC assesses the availability of practitioners within its delivery system including numbers, geographic location and cultural diversity and analyze performance against the standards as defined below. Data sources may include but are not limited to: self-reported member data such as satisfaction survey results, geo-access reporting, provider panel assignments, and complaints/grievances regarding satisfaction with physician availability, 'secret shopper' or onsite site surveys.
 - b. LHCC will monitor against the following quantifiable and measurable standards:

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Provider Network – Geographic and Capacity Standards [KG1] https://ldh.la.gov/assets/docs/BayouHealth/CompanionGuides/ProviderNetworkCG.pdf MCOProviderNetworkCompanionGuide_4 .14.21.pdf (la.gov)[CC3][JD4]

	Ratio	Rural	Parishes Parishes	Urban	Parishes Parishes	
Type	(Provider: Member)	miles ²	minutes ²	miles ²	minutes ²	Notes
	ŧ	Primary Car	e ¹			
Adult PCP access (for members 21 and over) 3						
Family/General Practice; Internal Medicine; FQHCs; RHCs; Physician Extenders: Nurse practitioners, certified nurse mid-wives, and physician assistants linked to a physician group who provide primary care services to adults.	Physicians: 1:2,500 adult members Physician extenders: 1:1,000 adult members	30	60	10	20	PCP mileage and time network standards are applied across these provider types collectively. Only include physicians that have agreed to accept full PCP requirements.

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Pediatrics; Family/General Practice; Internal Medicine; FQHCs; RHCs; Physician Extenders: Nurse practitioners, certified nurse mid-wives, and physician assistants linked to a physician group who provide primary care services to adults.	Physicians: 1:2,500 adult members Physician extenders: 1:1,000 adult members	30	60	10	20	PCP mileage and time network standards are applied across these provider types collectively. Only include physicians that have agreed to accept full PCP requirements.
Hospitals Acute Inpatient Hospitals		30	60	10	20	
Ancillary					20	
Laboratory		30	60	20	40	
Radiology		30	60	20	40	
Pharmacy		30	60	10	20	
Hemodialysis centers		30	60	10	20	
Dental - Pediatric3		30	60	10	20	

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	Ratio	Rural Parishes		Urban I	Parishes	
Type	(Provider: Member)	miles ²	minutes ²	miles ²	minutes ²	Notes
Specialty Care						
OB/GYN-1		30	60	15	30	
Allergy/Immunology	1:100,000					
Cardiology	1:20,000					
Dermatology	1:40,000	Travel				
Endocrinology and Metabolism	1:25,000	distance		Travel		
Gastroenterology	1:30,000	does not		distance does not		
Hematology/Oncology	1:80,000	exceed 60		exceed 60		
Nephrology	1:50,000	miles for at		miles for at		
Neurology	1:35,000	least 75% of		least 75% of		
Ophthalmology	1:20,000	members and 90 minutes		members and		
Orthopedics	1:15,000	for		90 miles for		
Otorhinolaryngology/Otolaryngolo	1:30,000	100% of		100% of members		
Urology	1:30,000	members				

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Behavioral Health						
Psychiatrists						
Psychiatrists		30	60	15	30	
Behavioral Health Specialists (adult)						
Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (Behavioral Health Specialty; Nurse Practitioner or Clinical Nurse Specialist); or Medical or Licensed Psychologist; Licensed Clinical Social Worker		30	60	15	30	Behavioral Health specialist network adequacy standards are applied across these provider types collectively as compared to residences of adult members

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	Ratio	Ru	ıral	Urban	Parishes	
Type	(Provi der:	mile	minutes ²	miles ²	minutes ²	Notes
Behavioral Health Specialists (pediatric)						
Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (Behavioral Health Specialty; Nurse Practitioner or Clinical Nurse Specialist); or Medical or Licensed Psychologist; or Licensed Clinical Social Worker		3 0	60	15	30	Behavioral Health specialist network adequacy standards are applied across these provider types collectively as compared to residences of pediatric members
Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilit	ies (PRTFs)	(pediatric)				T
Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility Psychiatric Residential Treatment						PRTF network standards are applied across these
Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility CCS Addiction (ASAM Level						provider types

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Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility Other Specialization		stance to a PRT 3.5 hours from			collectively as compared to residences of all pediatric members.
Substance Use Residential Treatment Facilitie	s - Adult Popula	tion			
ASAM Levels 3.3/3.5	3	60	30	60	
ASAM Level 3.7	6	90	60	90	
ASAM Level 3.7-WM	6	90	60	90	
Substance Use Residential Treatment Facilitie	s - Adolescent P	opulation			
ASAM Level 3.5	6	90	60	90	
Psychiatric Inpatient Hospital Services					
Hospital, Free Standing Psychiatric Unit Hospital, Distinct Part Psychiatric Unit	9 0	90	90	90	Psych inpatient network standards are applied across these provider types collectively as compared to residences for all members.

[→] For purposes of assessing network adequacy for OB/GYN specialty services, access standards are established based on female members age 21 and over. The

^{*}Unless otherwise specified in this Appendix, MCO must demonstrate that 100% of applicable members (adult or pediatric) have access to network providers for the type of service specified within the identified miles or minutes standard from the member's residence.

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*For purposes of reporting network adequacy for both physical and behavioral health services, adult is defined as members age 21 and over, pediatric is defined as members under age 21.

<u>Type</u>	Ratio (Provider: Member)	Rural Parishes (miles²)	<u>Urban Parishes</u> <u>(miles²)</u>	<u>Notes</u>
		Primary Care ¹		
Adult PCP access (for members 18 and over	er) ³			
Family/General Practice; Internal Medicine; FQHCs; RHCs; Physician Extenders: Nurse practitioners, certified nurse mid-wives, and physician assistants linked to a physician group who provide primary care services to adults.	Physicians: 1:2,500 adult members Physician extenders: 1:1,000 adult members age 18) ³	<u>30</u>	<u>10</u>	PCP mileage network standards are applied across these provider types collectively. Only include physicians that have agreed to accept full PCP requirements.
Pediatrics; Family/General Practice; Internal Medicine; FQHCs; RHCs; Physician Extenders: Nurse practitioners, certified nurse mid-wives, and physician assistants linked to a physician group who	Physicians: 1:2,500 child members Physician extenders: 1:1,000 child members	<u>30</u>	<u>10</u>	PCP mileage network standards are applied across these provider types collectively. Only include physicians that have agreed to accept full PCP

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<u>Hospitals</u>			
Acute Inpatient Hospitals	<u>30</u>	<u>10</u>	
Ancillary			
Laboratory	<u>30</u>	<u>20</u>	
Radiology	<u>30</u>	<u>20</u>	
Pharmacy	<u>30</u>	<u>10</u>	
Hemodialysis centers	30	10	

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<u>Type</u>	Ratio (Provider: Member)	Rural Parishes (miles²)	<u>Urban Parishes</u> <u>(miles²)</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Specialty Care				
OB/GYN 1		<u>30</u>	<u>15</u>	
Allergy/Immunology	<u>1:100,000</u>			
Cardiology	1:20,000			
Dermatology	1:40,000			
Endocrinology and Metabolism	<u>1:25,000</u>			
Gastroenterology	<u>1:30,000</u>			
Hematology/Oncology	<u>1:80,000</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>60</u>	
Nephrology	<u>1:50,000</u>			
Neurology	1:35,000			
<u>Ophthalmology</u>	1:20,000			
Orthopedics	1:15,000			
Otorhinolaryngology/Otolaryngology	1:30,000			
Urology	1:30,000			

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Behavioral Health				
<u>Psychiatrists</u>				
<u>Psychiatrists</u>		<u>30</u>	<u>15</u>	
Behavioral Health Specialists (adult)				
Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (Behavioral Health Specialty; Nurse Practitioner or Clinical Nurse Specialist); or Medical or Licensed Psychologist; or Licensed Clinical Social Worker		<u>30</u>	<u>15</u>	Behavioral Health specialist network adequacy standards are applied across these provider types collectively as compared to residences of adult members
Behavioral Health Specialists (pediatric	<u>:)</u>			
Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (Behavioral Health Specialty; Nurse Practitioner or Clinical Nurse Specialist); or Medical or Licensed Psychologist; or Licensed Clinical Social Worker		<u>30</u>	<u>15</u>	Behavioral Health specialist network adequacy standards are applied across these provider types collectively as compared to residences of pediatric members

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<u>Type</u>	Ratio (Provider: Member)	Rural Parishes (miles²)	<u>Urban Parishes</u> (miles²)	<u>Notes</u>
Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilitie	es (PRTFs) (pediatric)			
Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility Addiction (ASAM Level 3.7) Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility Other Specialization			200	PRTF network standards are applied across these provider types collectively as compared to residences of all pediatric members.
Substance Use Residential Treatment Fac	ilities - Adult Population	<u>1</u>		
ASAM Levels 3.3/3.5		<u>30</u>	<u>30</u>	
ASAM Level 3.7		<u>60</u>	<u>60</u>	
ASAM Level 3.7-WM		<u>60</u>	<u>60</u>	
Substance Use Residential Treatment Fac	Substance Use Residential Treatment Facilities - Adolescent Population			
ASAM Level 3.5		<u>60</u>	<u>60</u>	
Psychiatric Inpatient Hospital Services				
Hospital, Free Standing Psychiatric Unit Hospital, Distinct Part Psychiatric Unit		<u>90</u>	<u>90</u>	Psych inpatient network standards are applied across these provider types collectively as compared to residences for all members.

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- For purposes of assessing network adequacy for OB/GYN specialty services, access standards are established based on female members age 18 and over. The MCO shall not include OB/GYN providers in its assessment of network adequacy for primary care.
- 2 Unless otherwise specified in this guide, MCO must demonstrate that 100% of applicable members (adult or pediatric) have access to network providers for the type of service specified within the identified miles from the member's residence.
- For purposes of reporting network adequacy for physical health services, adult is defined as members age 18 and over, pediatric is defined as members under age 18. For behavioral health services, adult is defined as members age 21 and over, pediatric is defined as members under age 21.

LDH reserves the right to add additional specialty types as needed to meet the needs of the member population.

Travel distance requirements for all Specialized Behavioral Health Providers applies to Rural and Urban areas for 90% of all members, except for ASAM 3.3, 3.5, 3.7 co-occurring, 3.7 WM, which applies to 90% of adult members.

PRTF Access: Access and adequacy is based on availability of in-state PRTF's unless the MCO provides evidence that indicates an out-of-state provider is clinically appropriate to treat the specific needs of the member.

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Member linkages to Primary Care providers shall be submitted to LDH weekly as described in the MCO Systems Companion Guide.

LHCC will provide a higher ratio of specialists per member population and/or additional specialist types/member ratios may be established, if it is determined by LDH the MCO does not meet the access standards specified in the Contract.

Access standards to specialists that cannot be met may be satisfied utilizing telemedicine with prior LDH approval.

Members determined to need a course of treatment or regular care monitoring, will be allowed to directly access a specialist as appropriate for the member's condition and identified needs. LHCC will identify a specialist in-network, whenever possible. If an in-network provider is not available, LHCC will make arrangements for the member to see an out-of-network provider until such a provider is under contract.

Request for exceptions as a result of prevailing community standards for time and distance accessibility standards will be submitted in writing to LDH for approval. There shall be no penalty if the member chooses to travel further than established access standards in order to access a preferred provider. The member shall be responsible for travel arrangements and costs.

Time and Distance to Lab and Radiology Services. Exceptions for community standards shall be justified, documented and submitted to LDH for approval. Other medical service providers participating in the MCOs network also must be geographically accessible to MCO members as outlined in the RFP.

Ensuring Availability of Specialty Care Practitioners

1. At least annually, Plan assesses the availability of high-volume and high-impact specialty care practitioners (SCP) within its delivery system, including numbers and geographic distribution for high-volume and high-impact SCPs and analyzes performance against the standards as defined below. Standards

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are realistic for the Plan's service area and delivery system and consider clinical safety; standards may differ for rural, suburban and urban areas, if applicable, for the plan service area.

- a. High-volume SCPs are identified by volume of claims or episodes of care, and include obstetrics/gynecology at a minimum;
- b. High-impact SCPs are identified as the practitioner types that treat conditions with high mortality and morbidity rates, and include oncologists at a minimum.
- c. Data sources may include but are not limited to: network adequacy reports/Geo Access mapping and self-reported member data such as satisfaction survey results or complaints/grievances regarding satisfaction with physician availability.
- d. Number and geographic distribution may be expressed in one or more of the following ways:
 - i. The percentage of members who have a highvolume and high-impact SCP of each type within a certain number of miles and/or acceptable driving times, in minutes; The ratio of memberto-high-volume SCP availability in each area and a determination of acceptable driving times to specialty care sites and/or;
 - ii. The percentage of open high volume SCP practices within each geographic area;
 - iii. The rate of members who report that it is "always" or "usually" easy to get appointments with specialists, in addition to analysis of SCP availability by geographic area (when applicable, the Plan may also use the comparable question in CAHPS)
- 2. Plan will establish quantifiable and measurable standards for number of high-volume SCPs:

Maximum Number of Members per Provider by Specialty

Specialty	Number of Members
Allergy & Immunology	1 per 100,000
Cardiology	1 per 20,000

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Dermatology	1 per 40,000
Endocrinology	1 per 25,000
Gastroenterology	1 per 30,000
General Surgery	1 per 15,000 [KG6]
Nephrology	1 per 50,000
Neurosurgery	1 per 435,000[KG7]
Oncology/Hematology	1 per 80,000
Ophthalmology	1 per 20,000
Orthopedics Surgery	1 per 15,000[KG8]
Otolaryngology	1 per 30,000
Urology	1 per 30,000

3. Plan will establish quantifiable and measurable standards for the geographic distribution of SCPs: travel distance not to exceed 60 miles for least 75% of all members and 90 miles for key all members.

Practitioner Type	Urban Standard	Rural Standard
OB-GYNs	21 within 15 miles	21 within 30 miles
Dermatologists	21 within 15 miles	21 within 30 miles
Cardiologists	21 within 15 miles	21 within 30 miles
Otolaryngologists	21 within 15 miles	21 within 30 miles
Orthopedists	21 within 15 miles	21 within 30 miles
Oncologists	21 within 15 miles	21 within 30
		miles[KG10]

Ensuring Availability of Behavioral Health Practitioners {The Plan follows the time/distance guides as set forth in the Provider Network Companion Guide for LDH Quarterly Reporting requirements. On an annual basis we submit reporting utilizing the following standards for NCQA purposes only.}

1. At least annually, Plan assesses the availability of high-volume behavioral healthcare practitioners within its delivery system, including numbers and geographic distribution, and analyzes performance against the standards as defined below. Standards are realistic for the Plan's service area and delivery system and consider

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clinical safety; standards may differ for rural, suburban and urban areas, if applicable for the Plan service area.

- a. High-volume behavioral healthcare practitioners are identified by volume of claims or episodes of care, or the practitioner types most likely to provide services to the largest portion of members.
- b. Data sources may include but are not limited to: network adequacy reports/Geo Access mapping and self-reported member data such as satisfaction survey results and/or complaints/grievances regarding satisfaction with practitioner availability.
- c. Number and geographic distribution may be expressed in one or more of the following ways:
 - The percentage of members who have a high-volume behavioral healthcare practitioners of each type within a certain number of miles and/or driving times, in minutes.
 - The ratio of member-to-behavioral healthcare practitioner availability in each area.
- 2. Plan establishes quantifiable and measurable standards for number of behavioral healthcare practitioners.

Practitioner Type	Ratio
Psychiatrists	2 per 1,000 members
Clinical Psychologists [CC11] [JD12]	2 per 1,000 members
Masters Level Clinicians	5 per 1,000 members[CC13][JD14]

3. Plan establishes quantifiable and measurable standards for the geographic distribution of behavioral healthcare practitioners. Travel, distance shall not exceed 30 miles for 90% of rural members and shall not exceed 15 miles for 90% of urban members.

Practitioner Type [CC15] [JD16]	Distance[CC17][JD18]
Psychiatrists MD & Non MD Behavioral	1 within 30 Miles for Rural
Health Specialists	Members
Behavioral Health Specialists	1 within 30 Miles for Rural
	<u>Members</u>

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Psychiatrists MD & Non-MD Behavioral 1 within 15 Miles for Urba	
Health Specialists	Members
Behavioral Health Specialists	1 within 15 Miles for Urban
	<u>Members</u>

4. Management of the behavioral health benefit was integrated to the Plan effective September December 1, 20185. [CC19][JD20]

Provider Network - Appointment Availability Standards

Provider/Facility Type	Standard	
Emergencies and Urgent Care		
Emergency Care	24 hours, 7 days/week within 1 hour of request	
Urgent Non-emergency Care	24 hours, 7 days/week within 24 hours of	
Primary Care		
Non-Urgent Sick	72 hours	
Non-Urgent Routine	6 weeks	
After Hours, by phone	Answer by live person or call-back from a designated medical practitioner within 30	
Prenatal Visits		
1st Trimester	14 days	
2nd Trimester	7 days	
3rd Trimester	3 days	
High risk pregnancy, any trimester	3 days	
Specialty Care		
Specialist Appointment	1 month	
Waiting Room Time		
Scheduled Appointments	<45 minutes	
Accepting New Patients		
The practitioner office is open to new patients	Provider is listed in directory and/or registry file as open	
Specialized Behavioral Health Providers		
Non-Urgent Routine	14 days	
Urgent Non-emergency Care	48 hours	

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Psychiatric Inpatient Hospital (emergency involuntary)	4 hours
Psychiatric Inpatient Hospital (involuntary)	24 hours
Psychiatric Inpatient Hospital (voluntary)	24 hours
ASAM Level 3.3, 3.5 & 3.7	10 business days
Withdrawal Management	24 hours when medically necessary
Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility	20 calendar days

- **Hospital Access.** Usual and customary, not to exceed 10 miles or 30 minutes, except in rural areas where the standard is 30 miles. In addition, LHCC will include, at a minimum, access to the following:
 - i. One (1) hospital in each parish in their service area, if a hospital is available, for the provision of inpatient and outpatient services, including emergency room services (free standing psychiatric hospitals and distinct part psychiatric hospitals are excluded from this requirement);
 - ii. Tertiary hospital services, available 24 hours per day, for:
 - Level III Obstetrical services (LHCC defines this as a hospital that can provide high risk deliveries and has arrangements for the care of infants delivered preterm);
 - Level III Neonatal Intensive Care (NICU) services;
 - Pediatric services;
 - Trauma services:
 - Burn services; and
 - Nurseries
 - iii. One (1) tertiary hospital either recognized as a Children's Hospital that meets the CMS definition in 42 CFR, Parts 412 and 413.
 - iv. Tertiary care is defined as health services provided by highly specialized providers, such as medical sub-specialists and these services frequently require complex technological and support facilities.
 - v. Rehabilitation Facilities.

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- b. LHCC will contract with out-of-state hospitals to comply with these requirements if there are no hospitals within the State that meet these requirements or a contract cannot be negotiated.
- Other Service Providers LHCC shall ensure the availability of medical service providers including, but not limited to, ambulance services, durable medical equipment, orthotics, prosthetics and certain supplies, and radiology, and laboratories. All services must be provided in accordance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations.
- **Direct Access to Women's Health.** Female members, including adolescents, will have direct access to an OB/GYN within the Plan's network for routine OB/GYN services regardless of whether their PCP (general practitioner, family practitioner or internist) provides such women's health services, including routine gynecological exams. In accordance with federal law, LHCC covers family planning services provided by any qualified Medicaid provider regardless of network participation without requiring a referral or authorization. The MCO shall demonstrate its network includes sufficient family planning providers to ensure timely access to covered services. The MCO family planning services shall also include preconception and interconception care services for members to optimize member health entering pregnancy. The MCO shall agree to make available all family planning services to MCO members as specified in the RFP.
- **Second Opinion.** A second opinion may be requested when there is a question concerning diagnosis or options for surgery or other treatment of a health condition, or when requested by any member of the member's health care team, including the member, parent and/or guardian. A social worker exercising a custodial responsibility may also request a second opinion. Authorization for a second opinion will be granted to a network practitioner or an out-of-network practitioner, if there is no innetwork practitioner available. The second opinion will be provided at no cost to the member.

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- **Out-Of-Network Services.** If a member requires services that are not available from a qualified network practitioner, the decision to authorize use of an out-of-network practitioner will be based on continuity of care, availability and location of an in-network practitioner of the same specialty and expertise, and complexity of the case. Network practitioners are prohibited from making referrals for designated health services to health care entities with which the practitioner or a member of the practitioner's family has a financial relationship.
- *Cultural Diversity.* LHCC collects cultural, ethnic, racial and linguistic data about practitioners on a voluntary basis during the credentialing process. Member data regarding ethnic, racial and linguistic data is obtained from data provided by its State enrollment entity and data collected voluntarily through member contacts and outreach efforts. LHCC will facilitate linking of members with practitioners who can meet members' cultural, ethnic, racial and linguistic needs and preferences.

Timely Access Exceptions. If no provider type (hospital, specialist, etc.) is available within the time/distance requirement of a member's residence, LHCC may request an exception for timely access on the basis of community standards. Such exceptions must be justified, documented, and submitted to LDH for approval. Such requests should include data on the local provider population available to the non-Medicaid population. If LDH approves the exception, the MCO shall monitor member access to the specific provider type on an ongoing basis and provide the findings to LDH as part of its annual Network Provider Development Management Plan.

If termination is related to network access, LHCC shall include in the notification to LDH their plans to notify members of such change and strategy to ensure timely access to members through out-of-network providers. If termination is related to the MCO's operations, the notification shall include LHCC's plan for how it will ensure that there will be no stoppage or interruption of services to member or providers. LA.PRVR.23 outlines termination of providers and LA.MBRS.27 shall outline notification of members.

Gap Analysis and Intervention. LHCC analyzes its network adequacy on a quarterly basis by running Geo Access Maps for all contracted PCPs

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(Pediatricians, FPs, IMs, and NPs), Specialists (for the specialty types listed above), key ancillary services, and Hospitals. LHCC will provide GEO Access mapping and coding of all network providers during Readiness Review and quarterly thereafter or upon significant change in network. The Geo Access reports shall be consistent with the provider registry file sent to the enrollment broker. A network attestation shall be included with each Geo Access filing. LHCC shall provide analysis to show provider-to-member ratios as outlined in the Provider Network Companion Guide. LHCC shall ensure a sufficient number of providers and facilities to meet minimum ratio requirements and allow adequate access for members. The MCO report on accessibility shall include assessment of coverage including distance, population density and provider availability variables. All gaps in coverage will be identified and addressed in the Network Development and Management Plan.

At least annually, LHCC evaluates network cultural competency, network adequacy and appointment availability. The assessment is reported to the Quality Improvement Committee (QIC) at the individual practitioner, physician network, and/or medical group levels and/or as an aggregate as appropriate by provider type at least annually, although interim quarterly reports may also be reported to the QIC. The QIC, or designated subcommittee, will review the information for opportunities for improvement. Analysis of data will include comparison of results against the standard and analysis of the causes of any deficiencies (if appropriate) that must go beyond data display or simple reporting of results.

In the event that these reports uncover any network deficiencies, including those related to cultural competency, LHCC implements the network gap strategy described below. Intermediate short-term interventions are utilized when a network gap occurs and a member needs prompt access to specific services. In this situation:

Medical management, in conjunction with contracting, identifies the nearest non-contracted provider and authorizes out-of-network services. In the event that the member requires covered services from a specific provider type or specialty that is not within the travel standard, the Utilization Management Department will authorize medically necessary covered services by an out-of-network provider until a suitable network provider is available.

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Single case agreements will be negotiated by network management staff and inquiries will be made to determine if the provider is open to a contractual relationship.

LHCC will conduct an annual needs assessment to identify unmet service needs in the specialized behavioral health service delivery system. The needs assessment shall analyze and include the following aspects:

- Volume of single case agreements and out-of-network, out-of-state and telemedicine referrals for specialized behavioral health services;
- Specialized behavioral health services needs of members; and
- Growth trends in eligibility and enrollment, including:
 - Current and anticipated numbers of Title XIX and Title XXI eligible; and
 - Current and desired specialized behavioral health service utilization trends, including prevalent diagnoses, age, gender, and race/ethnicity characteristics of the enrolled population by region; best practice approaches; and network and contracting models consistent with LDH goals and principles.

The accessibility of services assessment will include:

- The number of current qualified specialized behavioral health service providers by individual specialized behavioral health service in the network who are not accepting new Medicaid referrals and a plan for updating on a regular, reoccurring basis as close to real time as possible;
- The geographic location of specialized behavioral health providers and members considering distance, travel time, and available means of transportation;
- Availability of specialized behavioral health services and appointments with physical access for persons with disabilities; and
- Any service access standards detailed in a SPA or waiver.

Long term network gap solutions involve additional recruitment strategies. These include:

1. Approaching PCPs and other providers with limited or closed panels, and request that they open their panels to new members or members (or if applicable, to a relative of a member already in their panel). For PCPs,

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this would only apply if the PCP was still below 2,500 members for all MCOs plus LDH combined.

- 2. Network specialists are approached to see if they can expand the number of members they will serve or their scope of services. Identifying potential providers through sources such as listing from the local medical societies and provider associations, case managers, Member Connections representatives, the Provider Advisory Council, established community relationships, Internet resources and personal recommendations from network providers in the area.
- 3. Utilizing listings of newly-licensed providers and state reports of providers issued new NPI numbers.
- 4. Monitoring non-par providers to assess whether they are reasonably anticipated to provide services at LHCC's request more than 25 times during the contract year, and
- 5. Maintaining relationships with providers who have declined to join the network.
- 6. Identifying sources of provider dissatisfaction and strengthening retention strategies.

Effectiveness of interventions are measured and reported at least annually in the QI Program evaluation. LHCC will submit an evaluation of NPD&MP at end of first year and annually thereafter.

The results of the reports and surveys described above will be used collectively by the Network Management and Contracting Department to assess the need for additional provider recruitment and by the Provider Relations Department to identify providers who may need education and/or corrective action plans to bring them into compliance with the health plan's accessibility standards.

The results of the reports will also be shared with LDH as well as with the health plan's senior management team and other regulatory bodies internal and external to the health plan as may be required and appropriate.

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LHCC will develop and maintain a Network Provider Development and Management Plan (See LA.CONT.05) that will be continuously updated to assure network adequacy.

REFERENCES:

LA.CONT.05

LA.PRVR.23

LA.MBRS.27

42 CFR §438.206, §438.208, §431.51

Title XIX and Title XXI

RFP 7.2

Provider Network Companion Guide

ATTACHMENTS:



rkCompanionGuide

DEFINITIONS:

Affiliated Provider: A physician, hospital, group practice, nursing home, or ancillary medical service entity that has entered into a contract with LHC to provide health care services to LHCC's enrollees.

Covered Services: The health care services defined and covered under the agreement between LDH and LHCC.

Availability: The extent to which the Plan provides the appropriate types and numbers of providers necessary to meet the needs of its members within defined geographical areas.

Primary Care Physician (PCP): a licensed medical doctor (MD) or doctor of osteopathy (DO) or certain other licensed medical practitioner who, within the scope of practice and in accordance with State certification/licensure requirements, standards, and practices is responsible for providing all required Primary Care Services to Members. A PCP shall include general/family practitioners, pediatricians, internists, physician's assistants, CNMs or NP-Cs, provided that the practitioner is able and willing to carry out all PCP

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responsibilities in accordance with the Plan's contract provisions and licensure requirements.

Behavioral Health Specialists (CC21) [IDD22]: Psychiatrist, Psychologist, Medical Psychologist, APRN Nurse Practitioner or Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) in mental health ander Licensed Master Clinical Social Worker, Advanced Clinical Practitioner, (LMSW-ACP), Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) and Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT).

Masters Level Clinicians: Licensed Master Social Worker, Advanced Clinical Practitioner, (LMSW ACP) [CC23] [JD24], Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) and Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT)

High Volume Specialists: With the exception of Behavioral Health Specialists, are defined by the Plan and may be based on claims volume (i.e net claim dollars).

REVISION LOG

REVISION	DATE
• Changes-Added RFP appendix TT to process as attachment,	11/2014
RFP requirement adherence language, product attachment,	
specialist ratio language,	
lab/rad/hemodialysis/pharmacy/other providers time and	
distance changes, added language tying provider registry	
file, GEO access, and appendix UU.	
• RFP requirements – 7.1.3; 7.1.5; 7.3; 7.4; 7.5; 7.6.3.2;	
7.8.3.2; 7.8.4; 7.8.5; 7.8.6; 7.8.8; 7.9.3; 7.9.4; 7.13.10;	
Added to VII section II - available 24 hours per day	2/2015
 Added to VII section IV - Tertiary care is defined as health services provided by highly specialized providers, such as medical sub-specialists and these services frequently require complex technological and support facilities. 	
• RFP requirements – 7.2.1; 7.3.7	7/2015
Added appendix SS and UU	

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• RFP requirements – 7.3.7	7/2016
Changed DHH to LDH	
• RFP requirements – 7.1.	11/2016
• Formatting edits; Appointment Standards updated per RFP requirements Section 7.2	06/2017
Grammatical and formatting edits	06/2018
• Revised RFP Amendment 11 requirements – 7.3.7	
 Revised all member ratio references/geographic criteria per LDH Provider Network Companion Guide; this replaces previous requirements set forth in Appendix SS and UU and Attachment TT 	
• Inserted new RFP requirements (7.5.3.2, 7.8.6.1)	05/2019
Formatting edits and inserted NCQA criteria for high- volume & high-impact practitioners	01/2020
• Revised for RFP Amendment 3 Attachment B3 for 7.3.3, 7.4.2	11/2020

POLICY AND PROCEDURE APPROVAL

The electronic approval retained in RSA Archer, <u>Centene's P&P management software,</u> is considered equivalent to a physical signature.

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Provider Network Companion Guide

MEDICAID MANAGED CARE

MANAGED CARE ORGANIZATIONS

LOUISIANA MEDICAID PROGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

BUREAU OF HEALTH SERVICES FINANCING

LDH will provide maintenance of all documentation changes to this Guide using the Change Control Table below.

Change Control Table Author of Change	Section Changed	Description	Reason	Date
Whitney Martinez	Provider Network – Geographic and Capacity Standards	Physical health specialty care distance standard	Updated distance standard to 60 miles, which applies to all members, to align with Contract Amendment 3.	4/14/2021
Whitney Martinez	Provider Network – Geographic and Capacity Standards	Physical and behavioral health time standards	Removed time standards to align with Contract Amendment 6.	4/14/2021
Whitney Martinez	Provider Network – Geographic and Capacity Standards	Physical health provider type	Removed "Dental – Pediatric" standard.	4/14/2021
Whitney Martinez	Provider Network – Geographic and Capacity Standards	Physical health classification of adult vs. pediatric	Reduced age limit for classification of adults to 18 years and older for physical health providers only to align with reporting change.	4/14/2021
Whitney Martinez	Provider Network – Linkage Ratio Standards	Primary care linkage ratios	Added primary care linkage ratios to align with Contract Amendment 3.	4/14/2021

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Provider Network – Geographic and Capacity Standards

Туре	Ratio (Provider: Member)	Rural Parishes (miles²)	Urban Parishes (miles²)	Notes		
	Primary Care ¹					
Adult PCP access (for members 18 and over	er) ³					
Family/General Practice; Internal Medicine; FQHCs; RHCs; Physician Extenders: Nurse practitioners, certified nurse mid-wives, and physician assistants linked to a physician group who provide primary care services to adults.	Physicians: 1:2,500 adult members Physician extenders: 1:1,000 adult members	30	10	PCP mileage network standards are applied across these provider types collectively. Only include physicians that have agreed to accept full PCP requirements.		
Pediatric PCP access (for members under	age 18)³					
Pediatrics; Family/General Practice; Internal Medicine; FQHCs; RHCs; Physician Extenders: Nurse practitioners, certified nurse mid-wives, and physician assistants linked to a physician group who provide primary care services to adults.	Physicians: 1:2,500 child members Physician extenders: 1:1,000 child members	30	10	PCP mileage network standards are applied across these provider types collectively. Only include physicians that have agreed to accept full PCP requirements.		
Hospitals						
Acute Inpatient Hospitals		30	10			
Ancillary	Ancillary					
Laboratory		30	20			
Radiology		30	20			
Pharmacy		30	10			
Hemodialysis centers		30	10			

Туре	Ratio (Provider: Member)	Rural Parishes (miles²)	Urban Parishes (miles²)	Notes		
Specialty Care						
OB/GYN ¹		30	15			
Allergy/Immunology	1:100,000					
Cardiology	1:20,000					
Dermatology	1:40,000					
Endocrinology and Metabolism	1:25,000					
Gastroenterology	1:30,000					
Hematology/Oncology	1:80,000	60	60			
Nephrology	1:50,000					
Neurology	1:35,000					
Ophthalmology	1:20,000					
Orthopedics	1:15,000					
Otorhinolaryngology/Otolaryngology	1:30,000					
Urology	1:30,000					
		Behavio	al Health			
Psychiatrists						
Psychiatrists		30	15			
Behavioral Health Specialists (adult)						
Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (Behavioral Health Specialty; Nurse Practitioner or Clinical Nurse Specialist); or		30	15	Behavioral Health specialist network adequacy standards are applied across these provider types collectively as		
Medical or Licensed Psychologist; or				compared to residences of adult members		
Licensed Clinical Social Worker						
Behavioral Health Specialists (pediatric)						
Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (Behavioral Health Specialty; Nurse Practitioner or Clinical Nurse Specialist); or Medical or Licensed Psychologist; or		30	15	Behavioral Health specialist network adequacy standards are applied across these provider types collectively as compared to residences of pediatric members		
Licensed Clinical Social Worker						

Туре	Ratio (Provider: Member)	Rural Parishes (miles²)	Urban Parishes (miles²)	Notes
Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilitie	s (PRTFs) (pediatric)			
Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility				PRTF network standards are applied across
Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility Addiction (ASAM Level 3.7)		200		these provider types collectively as compared to residences of all pediatric
Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility Other Specialization				members.
Substance Use Residential Treatment Faci	lities - Adult Population			
ASAM Levels 3.3/ 3.5		30	30	
ASAM Level 3.7		60	60	
ASAM Level 3.7-WM		60	60	
Substance Use Residential Treatment Faci	lities - Adolescent Popula	ation		
ASAM Level 3.5		60	60	
Psychiatric Inpatient Hospital Services				
Hospital, Free Standing Psychiatric Unit				Psych inpatient network standards are
Hospital, Distinct Part Psychiatric Unit		90	90	applied across these provider types collectively as compared to residences for all members.

¹ For purposes of assessing network adequacy for OB/GYN specialty services, access standards are established based on female members age 18 and over. The MCO shall not include OB/GYN providers in its assessment of network adequacy for primary care.

² Unless otherwise specified in this guide, MCO must demonstrate that 100% of applicable members (adult or pediatric) have access to network providers for the type of service specified within the identified miles from the member's residence.

³ For purposes of reporting network adequacy for physical health services, adult is defined as members age 18 and over, pediatric is defined as members under age 18. For behavioral health services, adult is defined as members age 21 and over, pediatric is defined as members under age 21.

Provider Network – Linkage Ratio Standards

Туре	Linkage Ratio (Provider: Enrollee)
Adult PCP (Family/General Practice; Internal Medicine; FQHC; RHC)	1:2,500
Adult Physician Extenders	1:1,000
Pediatric PCP (Pediatrics; Family/General Practice; Internal Medicine; FQHC; RHC)	1:2,500
Pediatric Physician Extenders	1:1,000

Provider Network – Appointment Availability Standards

Provider/Facility Type	Standard	Monitoring		
Emergencies and Urgent Care				
Emergency Care	24 hours, 7 days/week within 1 hour of request	CAHPS Survey, Complaint		
Urgent Non-emergency Care	24 hours, 7 days/week within 24 hours of request	Analysis		
Primary Care				
Non-Urgent Sick	72 hours	CAHPS Survey, Complaint		
Non-Urgent Routine	6 weeks	Analysis		
After Hours, by phone	Answer by live person or call-back from a designated medical practitioner within 30 minutes	Survey, Complaint Analysis		
Prenatal Visits				
1st Trimester	14 days			
2nd Trimester	7 days	CAHPS Survey, Complaint		
3rd Trimester	3 days	Analysis		
High risk pregnancy, any trimester	3 days			
Specialty Care				
Specialist Appointment	1 month	Complaint Analysis, Mystery Shopper, EQRO Survey		
Waiting Room Time				
Scheduled Appointments	<45 minutes	Complaint Analysis		

Accepting New Patients			
The practitioner office is open to new patients Provider is listed in directory and/or registry file as open		EQRO Survey, Mystery Shopper, Complaint Analysis	
Specialized Behavioral Health Providers			
Non-Urgent Routine	14 days	Mystery Shopper, Complaint	
Urgent Non-emergency Care	48 hours	Analysis	
Psychiatric Inpatient Hospital (emergency involuntary)	4 hours		
Psychiatric Inpatient Hospital (involuntary)	atric Inpatient Hospital (involuntary) 24 hours		
Psychiatric Inpatient Hospital (voluntary) 24 hours		Complaint Analysis	
ASAM Level 3.3, 3.5 & 3.7	10 business days		
Withdrawal Management	24 hours when medically necessary		
Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF)	20 calendar days		

Network Providers by Specialty Type

Specialty	Louisiana Medicaid Provider Specialty	NPPES Taxonomy Code
Primary Care Providers	1	
Family Practice	8	207Q00000X
FQHCs	42	261QF0400X
General Practice	1	208D00000X
Internal Medicine PCPs	41	207R00000X
Nurse Practitioners	79	363L00000X
OB/GYN PCPs	16	207V00000X
Pediatrics	37	208000000X
Rural Health Clinics	94	261QR1300X
Ancillary Services	•	
Ambulance Service Supplier	59	341600000X
Dialysis Centers	n/a	261QE0700X
Durable Medical Equipment	n/a	332B00000X
Home Health	n/a	251E00000X
Infusion Therapy	n/a	261QE0700X
NEMT - Non-profit	45	343900000X
NEMT – Profit	46	343900000X
Urgent Care Clinics	7N	261QU0200X
Hospitals		
Hospitals - General Acute Care	86	282N00000X
Hospitals - Children's	86	282NC2000X
Hospital - Rehabilitation	86	283X00000X
Pharmacies		
Pharmacies	n/a	333600000X
Specialty		
Adolescent Medicine	1A	2080A0000X
Allergy	3	207K00000X
Anesthesiology	5	207L00000X
Audiologist	64	231H00000X
Cardiac Electrophysiology	2A	207RC0001X
Cardiovascular Disease	6	207RC0000X
Cardiovascular Disease	2В	207RC0000X
Chiropractor	35	111N00000X
Clinic or Other Group Practice	70	261QM1300X
Critical Care Medicine	2C	207RC0200X
Critical Care Medicine	3A	207RC0200X

Specialty	Louisiana Medicaid Provider Specialty	NPPES Taxonomy Code
Dermatology	7	207N00000X
Diagnostic Laboratory	72	293D00000X
Emergency Medicine	1T	207P00000X
Endocrinology & Metabolism	2E	207RE0101X
Family Practice	8	207Q00000X
Gastroenterology	10	207RG0100X
Gastroenterology	2F	207RG0100X
General Practice	1	208D00000X
General Surgery	2	208600000X
Geriatric Medicine	2G	207RG0300X
Geriatrics	38	207RG0300X
Gynecologic oncology	3B	207VX0201X
Hand Surgery	40	2086S0105X
Hematology	2H	207RH0000X
Independent Laboratory	69	291U00000X
Indiv Certified Prosthetist - Ortho	57	225000000X
Infectious Disease	21	207RI0200X
Internal Medicine	41	207R00000X
Licensed Clinical Social Worker	73	1041C0700X
Maternal & Fetal Medicine	3C	207VM0101X
Med Supply / Certified Orthotist	51	222Z00000X
Med Supply / Certified Prosthetist	52	224P00000X
Medical Oncology	2J	207RX0202X
Neonatal Perinatal Medicine	1C	2080N0001X
Nephrology	39	207RN0300X
Nephrology	2K	207RN0300X
Neurological Surgery	14	207T00000X
Neurology	13	2084N0400X
Nuclear Medicine	2Q	207UN0903X
Nurse Practitioner	79	363L00000X
OB/GYN	16	207V00000X
Occupational Therapy	74	225X00000X
Ophthalmology	18	207W00000X
Optician / Optometrist	88	156FX1800X
Orthodontist	19	1223X0400X
Orthopedic Surgery	20	207X00000X
Otology, Laryngology, Rhinology	4	207W00000X
Pathology	22	207ZP0102X

Specialty	Louisiana Medicaid Provider Specialty	NPPES Taxonomy Code
Pediatric Cardiology	1D	2080P0202X
Pediatric Critical Care Medicine	1E	2080P0203X
Pediatric Day Health Care	1Z	261QM3000X
Pediatric Emergency Medicine	1F	2080P0204X
Pediatric Endocrinology	1G	2080P0205X
Pediatric Gastroenterology	1H	2080P0206X
Pediatric Hematology - Oncology	11	2080P0207X
Pediatric Infectious Disease	1 J	2080P0208X
Pediatric Nephrology	1K	2080P0210X
Pediatric Pulmonology	1L	2080P0214X
Pediatric Rheumatology	1M	2080P0216X
Pediatric Sports Medicine	1N	2080S0010X
Pediatric Surgery	1P	2086S0120X
Pediatrics	37	208000000X
Physical Medicine Rehabilitation	25	208100000X
Physician Assistant	2R	363A00000X
Plastic Surgery	24	208200000X
Podiatric Surgery	48	213ES0131X
Proctology	28	208C00000X
Psychiatry	26	2084P0800X
Pulmonary Disease	2L	207RP1001X
Pulmonary Diseases	29	207RP1001X
Radiology	30	2085R0202X
Rheumatology	2M	207RR0500X
Rural Health Clinic	94	261QR1300X
Speech Therapy	71	235Z00000X
Surgery - Critical Care	2N	2086S0102X
Surgery - General Vascular	2P	2086S0129X
Thoracic Surgery	33	208G00000X
Urology	34	208800000X
Specialized Behavioral Health		
APRN – Clinical Nurse Specialist	26	364SP0808X
APRN – Nurse Practitioner	26	364SP0808X
Assertive Community Treatment	8E	261QM0850X
Behavioral Health Rehab Agency	8E	251S00000X
Center Based Respite	8E	385HR2055X
Crisis Receiving Center	8E	261QM0801X

Specialty	Louisiana Medicaid Provider Specialty	NPPES Taxonomy Code
Distinct Part Psychiatric Unit	86	273R00000X
Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine, Psychiatry	26	2084P0800X
Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine, Neurology	27	2084N0400X
Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine, Addiction Medicine	2W	2084A0401X
Federally Qualified Health Center	42	261QF0400X
Freestanding Psychiatric Hospital	86	283Q00000X
Licensed Addiction Counselor	8E	101YA0400X
Licensed Clinical Social Worker	73	1041C0700X
Licensed Marriage Family Therapist	8E	106H00000X
Licensed Professional Counselor	8E	101YP2500X
Medical Psychologist	6G	103TP0016X
Mental Health Clinic (LGEs)	70	261QM0801X
Mental Health Rehab Agency (Legacy)	78	251S00000X
Multi-Systemic Therapy Agency	5M	261QM0855X
Physician Assistant	26	364SP0808X
Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility	9B	323P00000X
Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility – Addiction Specialty	8U	323P00000X
Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility – Other Specialty	8R	323P00000X
Psychiatrist	26	2084P0800X
Psychiatrist - Addictionologist	2W	2084P0802X
Psychologist – Clinical	6A	103TC0700X
Psychologist – Counseling	6B	103TC1900X
Psychologist – Developmental	6D	103TM1800X
Psychologist – Non-Declared	6E	103T00000X
Psychologist – Other	6F	103T00000X
Psychologist – School	6C	103TS0200X
Rural Health Clinic (Independent)	94	261QR1300X
Rural Health Clinic (Provider Based)	94	261QR1300X
School Based Health Center	70	261QH0100X
Substance Abuse & Alcohol Abuse Center (Outpatient)	70	261QR0800X
Substance Use Residential Treatment Facility	8U	324500000X
Therapeutic Foster Care Agency	9F	253J00000X
Therapeutic Group Home	5X	320800000X