

Clinical Management for Behavioral Health Services Update

Overview

This communication is intended to inform Department of State Health Services (DSHS) contractors and stakeholders regarding the current development status of the Clinical Management for Behavioral Health Services (CMBHS) information system. It includes information about an upcoming release and a change in the way mental health information will be submitted to DSHS by Local Mental Health Authorities (LMHAs). There will also be changes for NorthSTAR providers. These changes will be communicated through ValueOptions and are not addressed through this bulletin.

The current Child and Adult Uniform Assessments are being updated to use the new Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) and the new Adult Needs and Strengths (ANSA) assessment tools. DSHS is requiring the new assessment data to be submitted electronically either using a batch process or through use of the CMBHS web application for mental health. The batch submission format and process will **not** be exactly the same as the current submission by LMHAs to the CARE system. There are changes in data structures and data submission policies associated with the new assessment tools and are described below. Any paper and electronic forms will require appropriate replacement and/or modifications.

Key Dates

September 2012- Final Child Uniform Assessment and CANS sorter, programming code, business rules, and batch formats released to LMHAs

TBA 2012- Final Adult Uniform Assessment and ANSA sorter, programming code, business rules, and batch formats released to LMHAs

March 2013- Review of progress in implementation at both the state and LMHA level

Spring/Summer 2013- Training on new assessment tools and CMBHS Online Services for Mental Health

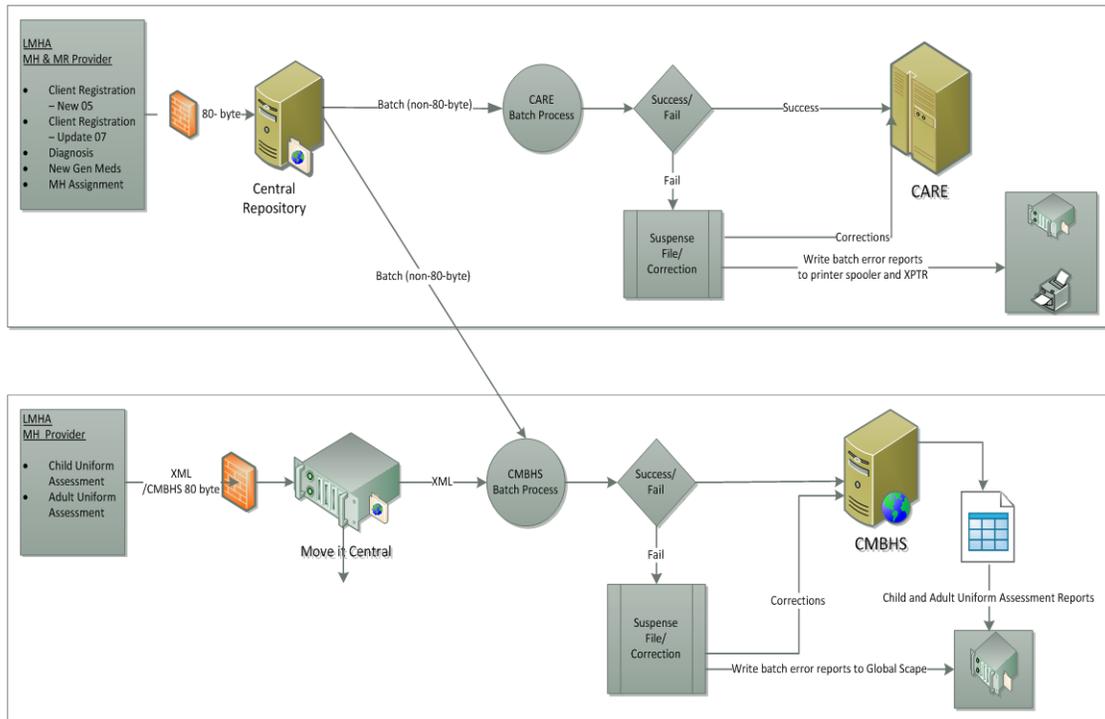
September 1, 2013- Utilization of new system begins

Changes to State-Operated Information Systems, Local Information Systems, and Data Submission

There are changes being implemented in CARE and CMBHS to process data submission from the LMHAs. LMHAs will be expected to submit separate, distinct data sets to each system. The long-term plan is for CARE to be retired and replaced with a new system.

After the transition to the new assessment tools, CARE will no longer be processing the Child and Adult Uniform Assessments. It will, however, remain the System of Record for client registrations and diagnosis. LMHAs are expected to continue to submit all registration data (both new clients and updates), diagnosis, New Generation Medication, and other batch transactions to CARE using existing CARE processes. After the transition to the new assessment tools, data collected using these tools **will be** submitted to CMBHS. The graphic below represents the new data submission and processing procedures to be utilized when the new assessments go live in September 2013.

Mental Health Data Flow



LMHAs will not need to submit the same data separately to both CARE and CMBHS. As shown in the figure above, CMBHS will automatically receive a copy of the data from CARE submission files provided by a LMHA. Both CARE and CMBHS will process data using identical business rules. Any error found by one system (CARE or CMBHS) should be found by the other. Each system will maintain its own suspense queue. LMHAs will have the option of making corrections to data errors in either CARE or CMBHS and the correction will be shared between both systems, requiring the LMHA to make the change only once.

Corrections in CARE may be made in WebCARE. Corrections to some transactions may be made by resubmitting data through the CARE batch process. Changes submitted to the CARE system will be forwarded to CMBHS every business day.

CMBHS will include a new web interface with advanced features including automatic processing of subsequent items in the suspense queue associated with a previously-corrected issue (e.g. if there was an issue with registration that prevented processing a diagnosis transaction, the diagnosis transaction will be automatically reprocessed when the registration error is corrected in CMBHS). LMHAs will need to determine for themselves how to approach making corrections.

Direct Data Entry into CMBHS

Providers who choose not to batch assessment data should use CMBHS' web interface. Additional data, including client profile and diagnosis information, will be required to be in CMBHS before a Child or Adult Uniform Assessment can be completed.

Batching Assessment Data to CMBHS

The new Child and Adult Assessment data may be submitted in either an 80-byte or XML-record format. Because of inter-system data dependency, it is essential that LMHAs submit registration and diagnosis data for a given client to CARE no later than the same day they submit assessment data for the same client to CMBHS. CMBHS will not begin to process data until after CARE completes its daily processing cycle. Corrections to assessment data may be entered through the CMBHS web interface and will be processed real-time.

No changes to MBOW Encounter Data Submission Process

There are no changes currently planned for the process of data submission to MBOW as a result of the changes to CMBHS.

No changes to Substance Abuse Data Submission Process

LMHAs that provide DSHS-contracted substance abuse services are expected to continue to use CMBHS's web interface for reporting substance abuse services.

Review of Progress

In March 2013, DSHS will conduct a review of progress by both state system developers and LMHAs in modifying systems to comply with the new data requirements. Should progress by either DSHS or the LMHAs not be sufficient enough to meet the project timeline and goals, DSHS may determine that it must implement a contingency strategy to collect data required by Rider 65, passed by the Legislature in the last legislative session. If an alternate solution to batching data is necessary, it will likely result in manual data entry by LMHA staff into CMBHS via a web portal or to a separate, standalone DSHS website. Meeting the project schedule will minimize the need for duplicate data entry, especially for LMHAs that intend to batch data.

Technical Assistance

DSHS project staff will be available to provide technical assistance to LMHAs in converting local systems to be compliant with the new data reporting requirements.

Testing

DSHS will establish a test environment and schedule to enable LMHAs to test information exchange with the Department.

Document Availability and Discussions

DSHS has established a new website, <https://cmbhslst.dshs.state.tx.us/cmbhs/Documents/>. This website currently includes the business rules that DSHS developed for the new Child Uniform Assessment as well as the computer code that DSHS wrote for the CANS Level of Care Recommended calculator. The 80 byte and XML batch formats are also on this website. The same information will be provided for the new Adult Uniform Assessment when the first drafts are completed. Note that as of August, 2012, all of the documents and computer code on this web site are drafts that contractors may use to estimate the level of effort required to make changes and, potentially, begin to modify local systems. DSHS is currently coding changes into its systems and will publish updates as it proceeds. An announcement will be made through a contractor's bulletin when the code and business rules have been finalized.

DSHS and a group of LMHAs are holding regular conference calls and meetings to work through programming changes required to make systems compliant. Please contact the IMC chair, Mike Taylor, at mike.taylor@mrmhtc.org, for additional information about how you may participate with the IMC and the Systems Policy Workgroup. DSHS-hosted conference calls focused on data exchange occur on the fourth Wednesday of the month from 2 to 3pm. To access the call please dial 267.507.0013 and enter meeting code 142.723.586. Physical meetings are scheduled in Austin quarterly. Contact Chris Meengs, CMBHS Project Manager, at christine.meengs@dshs.state.tx.us, for further meeting information.

General Questions

Questions should be directed to cmbhs@dshs.state.tx.us. Please include “data exchange” in the subject line of your message.