



Dear Healthy Louisiana Behavioral Health Provider,

A notice to the provider network in September, 2019, and the recently published Optum national newsletter, *Network Notes*, may have caused some confusion regarding a change in our clinical criteria to the Level of Care Utilization System (LOCUS), Child and Adolescent Service Intensity Instrument (CASII), and Early Childhood Service Intensity Instrument (ECSII).

At this time, the current Level of Care Guidelines for UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Louisiana's membership will remain unchanged. These guidelines will remain in place until the Louisiana Department of Health approves the adoption of the LOCUS, CASII and ECSII. When this change is approved, impacted providers will be given the appropriate required notification.

The earlier provider notice and *Network Notes* are national communications and they referenced the changes to our clinical criteria and indicated that Optum would be adopting LOCUS, CASII and ECSII, externally validated guidelines "...unless superseding state, federal, contractual or customer requirements apply". This exception would include Healthy Louisiana business.

All Level of Care Guidelines that are currently required as part of the Healthy Louisiana contract will remain in place and will not be impacted by the new criteria until approved by the Louisiana Department of Health. The authorization process, from both the provider and member viewpoints, will remain unchanged at this time.

For more information regarding the current Level of Care Guidelines for Healthy Louisiana, please visit lamedicaid.com.

Thank You

Network Management

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"Thank you for helping us carry out our mission of helping people live healthier lives!"