
FEHB Program Carrier Letter

All Carriers

U.S. Office of Personnel Management
Office of Insurance Programs

Letter No. 1999-052

Date: October 20, 1999

Fee-for-service [46] Experience-rated HMO [44] Community-rated HMO [43]

Subject: Mental Health and Substance Abuse Parity

This letter is to follow-up on our Carrier Conference recently held in Arlington, Virginia. Those of you who attended the conference will recall that our presenters provided extensive information on parity trends, myths, facts, success stories and case studies. Now that you have had time to digest this valuable information, we would like to schedule a series of meetings to hear your issues and questions. The first meeting will be the first or second week of November.

We believe that it makes sense to structure these meetings around your existing health plan affiliations so we plan to meet with representatives of the American Association of Health Plans, Health Insurance Association of America, and the Association of Federal Health Organizations. Please make these organizations aware of your concerns, issues or questions so that they may share them with us. If you do not have an affiliation with one of these organizations, please send your issues and questions to Mike Kaszynski in our Policy and Information Division via the Internet (mwkaszyn@opm.gov).

Thank you for your input!

Sincerely,

(signed)

Frank D. Titus
Assistant Director
for Insurance Programs