



Service Name and Description

Comprehensive Screening and Community Connection

Procedure Code: YA377

Comprehensive Screening and Community Connection

Comprehensive Screening and Community Connection is a method of working with adults and children who have Developmental Disabilities who are seeking services and who are waiting for DD services in Wake County. LME-MCOs across the state are struggling with eligibility and it appears as though there is no standardized process in practice. This proposed definition is an attempt to provide a structure and standardized practice around the initial contacts and work with families and consumers seeking services.

Provider Organization Requirements

Comprehensive Screening and Community Connection services must be delivered by practitioners employed by a provider organization that:

- meets the provider qualification policies, procedures, and standards established by the Division of Health Benefits;
- meets the provider qualification policies, procedures, and standards established by the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services (MH/DD/SAS);
- and
- fulfills the requirements of 10A NCAC 27G.

Staffing Requirements by Age/Disability

This service will be provided by licensed clinicians possessing a PhD, LPA, LMHC, LMHC-A, LMFT, LMFT-A, LCSW, LCSW-A with I/DD expertise and/or other QP staff with knowledge and experience in case management with the I/DD population and in interpreting evaluations, IEP's and other contributing and pertinent information.

Program and Staff Supervision

Licensed Professionals must be supervised in compliance with licensing board and 10A NCAC 27G.

Qualified Professionals must be supervised at minimum monthly by a QP with 2 years of I/DD experience

and consultation available by a Licensed Professional. Supervision must meet the requirements of 10ANCAC 27G.

Service Type/Setting

This service is a periodic provided in the community, in the adult of child member's home or in the office, or place of their choice. This service is a short term service that ultimately engages the member in longer term needed supports.

Program Requirements

Comprehensive Screening (which includes gathering of pertinent evaluations and medical records) is critical in assuring those requesting DD Services meet the state definition for services and are appropriately receiving or waiting for services. It is expected that this service will include a minimum of 1 home visit to assess an individual's current functioning and level of need plus at least 4 hours of review and compilation of assessments, pertinent reports and documents in order to make clinical recommendations.

Community Connection is a critical element of the DD Service continuum for persons who are in the process of accessing or waiting for services. It is designed as a short-term engagement service to assist individuals in understanding the System of Care, connecting individuals with non-state-funded community services, supporting the individual and family in understanding the waiting list and accessing entitlement benefits which would facilitate service access. It is expected that this service would provide a maximum of 10 contacts over a period of 90 days, preferably in the individual's home or community and would be provided in conjunction with the Comprehensive Screening. Community Connection is by no means intended to replace Services with Care Management embedded or obviate the Care Management service. Community Connection is intended to be a brief, interim service extension to initial eligibility determination and needs assessment to empower families and alleviate initial stressors to consumers who will likely have to wait for services. It is designed to optimize direct client/family services while eliminating "non-service" activities such as PCP development. The service is designed to further empower families to advocate and access services and benefits independent of paid system resources.

Comprehensive Screening and Community Connection is designed to be an individual service to assist in the determination of eligibility, assist in accessing benefits and entitlements, and initial determination of service need. The service assists clients and families to understand and navigate access to the service delivery system and the community. The service is designed to:

- Access, compile, and synthesize existing evaluations necessary for the determination of eligibility for services
- Assist client/family in accessing appropriate resources/referrals if updated and new evaluations are needed
- Assist client/family in accessing initial natural and/or community supports if available
- Assist client/family in identifying potential benefits/entitlements
- Assess for and provide linkage to the appropriate level of care and services if available

Entrance Criteria & Eligibility Requirements

Any child or adult who is a new member seeking services through Access/Call Center who presents with a need for I/DD services or any individual who was previously screened but for whom the LME- requires a reevaluation of eligibility and updated assessment of need are eligible for this service.

Continued Stay Criteria

Not applicable; this is a short-term engagement service, limited to no more than 90 days and not designed as a long-term method of service delivery. Continued needs will be addressed through an alternate service, dependent upon information obtained from the assessment, clinical recommendations and available supports.

Discharge Criteria

A comprehensive assessment will be completed and provided to the LME-MCO upon completion of the service, or sooner, if needed. Individual's immediate needs will be assessed and stabilized or referred for further support. Each individual will be referred (through the LME-MCO) to appropriate resources as available or placed on **the Registry of Unmet Needs**, maintained by the LME-MCO, to receive such supports. Individuals will be educated on their status of eligibility, available resources and personal responsibility to notify the LME-MCO should their situation change. An update with the provider's involvement and recommendations, along with any appropriate determination materials, will be forwarded to the LME-MCO.

Evaluation of Consumer Outcomes and Perception of Care

Consumer outcomes:

- Families are provided tools and information in order to better access services and work within the system.
- Families will be educated about resources, availability of resources and accessing paid and natural supports in order to meet their family members' needs.
- Families will have an identified contact person with the system who they can access for 'consultation.'
- This service will result in a document that well defines an individual's needs and strengths essential to the development of a comprehensive Person- Centered Plan.
- Complete and comprehensive assessments and Person-Centered Plan will aid in determining most appropriate services to members' needs
- Emergent/Urgent consumer situations will be screened, triaged and expedited.
- Consumers will be linked to appropriate and available resources sooner, limiting time lapses in service delivery. More consumers who are not currently in the service delivery system will begin receiving services (improved penetration).
- Timeliness of service delivery may reduce utilization of crisis services including evaluation, observation and admission to facility-based crisis services.

Service Documentation Requirements

The minimum standard is a service note completed daily per service being billed that includes the consumer's name, date of service, purpose of contact, duration of contact and the signature and credentials of the person providing the service.

Service Exclusions

No other I/DD services can be billed on the same day as Comprehensive Screening and Community Connection.

Service Limitations

Comprehensive Screening and Community Connection services will be provided an average of 15 hours per individual over a maximum of 90 days.