



Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services
 3 West Road, Virks Building, Cranston, RI 02920
 phone: 401.462.5274 fax: 401.462.3677

Name of Regulation: **210-RICR-30-05-2**
 Posted for Public Comment on **8/3/21**
 Public hearing held on **N/A**
 Comment Period Ended on **9/2/21**
 Summary Response to Comments **9/2/21**

	Respondent	Nature of the Comments	EOHHS' Response
1.	Name Title Organization Date Submitted	Summary of comment received	EOHHS response, if applicable
2.	Elizabeth Burke Bryant Executive Director Rhode Island Kids Count 9/2/21	RI Kids Count recommends that prior authorization for behavioral healthcare services not be reinstated on January 1 st due to the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic and surge of the Delta variant. This suspension has been helpful throughout the pandemic to increase access to needed behavioral health services and it should be maintained longer as the PHE is likely to remain in place for the entirety of 2021 and continue past 1/1/22	EOHHS appreciates this feedback regarding the proposed reinstatement of the prior authorizations for behavioral healthcare services. It is important to note that prior authorization is not required for most behavioral health services. EOHHS remains dedicated to ensuring that the right behavioral health services are available to members at the right time and EOHHS has and will continue to ensure that behavioral health services are accessible. EOHHS is particularly proud of the provider community's ability to maintain service delivery to members in need during the PHE. EOHHS continues to be overwhelmed by the support of the Rhode Island Foundation as well as all other community partners that assisted Rhode Islanders during this time and looks forward to continuing this partnership.
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