
NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**“MENTAL HEALTH PARITY IMPLEMENTATION: NEW REGULATIONS EXPLAINED BY THE NATION’S
LEADING ANALYSTS AND EXPERTS”
AVAILABLE ON CD**

(Washington, D.C., March 25, 2010)...To help the clinical and administrative leadership of behavioral healthcare organizations understand how new regulations implementing the federal mental health parity law may be changing marketplace dynamics and what the implications for consumers may be, the National Association of Psychiatric Health Systems (NAPHS) is offering a four-hour training on compact disc.

“Mental Health Parity Implementation: New Regulations Explained by the Nation’s Leading Analysts and Experts” brings together a faculty of some of the most informed and thought-provoking leaders in the industry to discuss the requirements of the interim final parity regulations (<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/pdf/2010-2167.pdf>) and to identify the questions that still need to be answered. Hear the lead staffer from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services discuss the thinking that went into taking the statute from law to regulation—and the areas that still need to be clarified. Hear the former head of Magellan talk about the quantitative and non-quantitative treatment limitations and their comparability to medical/surgical benefits. Hear a highly regarded actuary talk about the importance of understanding medical/surgical benefits packages as a basis for determining mental health parity. Hear a lively discussion among representatives of a major insurance plan, the American Psychiatric Association, a national healthcare benefits consultant, the National Alliance on Mental Illness, and NAPHS representing hospitals and residential treatment centers as they outline the challenges and opportunities the parity regulations present as a vehicle for truly moving mental healthcare on par with medical surgical care.

The faculty includes:

- **Mark Covall**, president/CEO, National Association of Psychiatric Health Systems;
- **Richard G. Frank, PhD**, deputy assistant secretary for policy and evaluation, Office of Disability, Aging, and Long-Term Care Policy, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- **Henry Harbin, M.D.**, independent consultant; former CEO, Magellan Health Services;
- **Stephen P. Melek, FSA, MAAA**, consulting actuary, Milliman;
- **Irvin L. (Sam) Muszynski**, director of healthcare systems and financing, American Psychiatric Association;
- **Douglas Nemecek, M.D., M.B.A.**, senior medical director, Cigna;
- **Joan M. Pearson, Ph.D.**, independent healthcare consultant; formerly principal, Towers Perrin’s Health and Welfare Benefits Practice; and
- **Andrew Sperling**, director, federal legislative advocacy, National Alliance on Mental Illness.

The moderator is **Jeri Davis**, president, Jeri Davis International Healthcare Consultants and Recruiters (JDi). The training is supported by an educational grant from **AstraZeneca**.

HOW TO ORDER

The cost of the four-hour training on CD is \$500 (or \$350 for NAPHS members). American Express, MasterCard, and Visa are accepted. To order, go to www.naphs.org, or call 202/393-6700, ext. 107.

ABOUT NAPHS

NAPHS advocates for behavioral health and represents provider systems that are committed to the delivery of responsive, accountable, and clinically effective prevention, treatment, and care for children, adolescents, adults, and older adults with mental and substance use disorders. Its members are behavioral healthcare provider organizations that own or manage more than 600 specialty psychiatric hospitals, general hospital psychiatric and addiction treatment units and behavioral healthcare divisions, residential treatment facilities, youth services organizations, and extensive outpatient networks. The association was founded in 1933.

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