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Interim Final Rules Under the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008

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General Comment

p.13, Section 3: Benefits. Thank you for finally making parity happen, as these percentages show parity did not exist before, despite the law.

Also now that visits have lower limits, people with chronic and severe mental health conditions such as bipolar and schizophrenia will not exhaust their coverage in about five months as they did before. This should reduce people foregoing outpatient treatment and lower likelihood of non-adherence to treatment regimes that produce poor outcomes. All of this decreases the potential for increased hospitalization costs and helps ensure a better quality of life for these individuals who need ongoing treatment.