



PROGRAM FOR ASSERTIVE COMMUNITY TREATMENT (PACT)

What is PACT?

PACT is a multi-disciplinary, self-contained clinical team approach providing long-term intensive care and all mental health services in natural community settings to Medicaid members. Interventions focus on achieving maximum reduction of physical and mental disability and restoration of the member's best possible functional level. The treatment model goal is to decrease the frequency and/or duration of hospitalizations, crisis services, and/or incarceration. PACT is a member-centered, recovery oriented mental health services delivery model for facilitating community living, psychosocial rehabilitation and recovery for members with severe disabling mental illness (SDMI) who have not benefited from traditional outpatient services.

Who is eligible?

Medicaid members must have an SDMI principal diagnosis, the manifestations of which seriously impair functioning in community living. Priority is given for the diagnosis of schizophrenia, other psychotic disorders (e.g., schizoaffective disorder), and bipolar disorder. (A primary diagnosis of substance use disorder or an intellectual disability is not appropriate.)

Who are the PACT providers?

Mental Health Centers have PACT teams that are approved by the Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS). Each PACT team must have the organizational ability to provide services up to 70 members served on any one team, unless specifically authorized by DPHHS.

The following minimum staff configuration must be met in each PACT team: one full-time team leader/supervisor; a psychiatrist on a full-time or part-time basis for a minimum of 20 hours per week for every 70 members; a minimum of three full-time mental health professionals who must be licensed (including the team leader); a minimum of two full-time mental health workers who are paraprofessionals; one full-time program assistant; and an optional peer specialist.

What services are available?

Services consist of medication management including administration, monitoring, and documentation; mental health assessment and evaluation; individual and family psychotherapy; supportive therapy and psychotherapy; crisis assessment and intervention 24-hours a day, seven days a week; intensive case management services; substance abuse services; work-related services; daily living skills; and ongoing support and collaboration. PACT is reimbursed as a daily rate. There must be three face-to-face member contacts/services in a week to receive reimbursement for a non-contact day.

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Visit the Addictive and Mental Disorders Division at:
<http://dphhs.mt.gov/amdd/Mentalhealthservices>