

everyday affairs

document patient consent

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Beacon Health Strategies, FCHP's behavioral health services partner, is committed to fully integrating your patients' medical care with the behavioral health treatment they receive. Beacon would like to remind you that, upon initiation of behavioral health services, you must obtain a patient's consent to contact his/her primary care physician and other behavioral health providers. This consent should be obtained by having the patient sign a Release of Information form.

basics of ROI

The ROI form is essential to the treatment relationship. It confirms that the patient understands what information may be shared with other members of the health team. The ROI ensures that the patient's rights have been upheld and demonstrates to the patient that his/her treatment is a collaborative effort. The ROI must be signed and put in the patient's chart. It should specify what the request is for, detail which information is released to whom and include an expiration date.

When Beacon conducts outpatient chart reviews, we look for documentation of consent to release information to and from the primary care physician to the provider, documentation of initial communication by the provider to the PCP, and documentation of consent to communicate with other providers, when applicable, including collaboration on treatment planning and aftercare planning.

let's communicate

Beacon recognizes the importance of working collaboratively to create a coordinated treatment system in which all providers work together to seamlessly support the patient. Truly integrated health care, focused on the whole person, can only be effective if all treating providers coordinate their efforts.

We are interested in supporting communication between behavioral health providers, PCPs and other providers, and are open to ideas on how to best facilitate the kinds of communication that can help integrate the health care needs of your patients. Please let us know about any ways you have found that work best to coordinate care. We can publish these in future newsletters to help out other behavioral health providers and PCPs.