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## CHILDREN'S BEHAVIORAL HEALTH INITIATIVE INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

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**TO:** BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROVIDERS  
**FROM:** CHILDREN'S BEHAVIORAL HEALTH INITIATIVE  
**DATE:** AUGUST 1, 2008  
**SUBJECT:** HAVE YOU SCHEDULED CANS TRAINING FOR YOUR STAFF YET?

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### **Did You Know?**

Beginning November 30, 2008, MassHealth and the MassHealth Managed Care Entities (MCEs) will require a uniform behavioral health assessment process for MassHealth members under the age of 21 that includes a comprehensive needs assessment using the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) tool.

### **That's less than 4 months away!**

Starting September 1, 2008, MassHealth MCEs will begin reimbursing certain CANS-certified providers who choose to use the MassHealth version of the CANS tool during a psychiatric diagnostic interview examination at an enhanced rate. This enhanced rate will only be available to providers who are authorized to bill the CANS tool using CPT code 90801. To get the enhanced rate, eligible providers must bill the CANS with CPT code 90801 plus the modifier HA. This enhanced rate will be available in advance of the new requirements to use the CANS, which will become effective November 30, 2008.

### **Avoid the last minute staff training rush ...**

In-person training for CANS certification is available at many dates and locations across the state. On-site training can be arranged and if your agency does not have the space to conduct the training, your staff can be accommodated at a nearby location at no cost to your organization. In addition, a free lunch will be provided at all training sessions. As an alternative, Web-based on-line training is now available too. Participation in both the in-person and Web-based training is free of charge and will include free Continuing Education Units (CEUs).

### **So why delay?**

Don't wait to schedule CANS training. Call the Massachusetts CANS Training Center at **(508) 856-1016** or e-mail [masscans@umassmed.edu](mailto:masscans@umassmed.edu) right away.

***Remember: CANS will be here sooner than you think. Avoid delay.***

