

## **WV Birth to Three Communications to the Field**

### **Subject: New TA Bulletin**

**Released: May 9, 2008**

WV Birth to Three has released a new Technical Assistance Bulletin for clarifications around the 'teaming' service. Please go to our website for review: [www.wvdhhr.org/birth23](http://www.wvdhhr.org/birth23)

This TA Bulletin was developed with the recognition of our commitment to team decision making, as well as our need to be able to control our system costs.

We have worked to be able to preserve our ability to pay team members for development and review of the IFSP, and for other critical junctures.

You will notice that the TA Bulletin identifies limits in the amount of time that BTT will be able to reimburse for each of the identified meetings. There may be times when meetings run over this length of time, but BTT will only be able to reimburse for up to this amount of time (less, if the meeting is shorter).

There has been a question about the reference to "Completion of the Child Outcome Measure" as a separate listing. For clarification, this refers only to when a team may have to complete an exit measurement at a time other than one of the other regularly scheduled meetings. Otherwise, the COST will be completed as part of the initial and annual IFSP meetings.

Also, there is an allowance for up to 4 units of additional teaming for problem-solving, within each 6 month segment of an IFSP. These units can be used for problem solving with members of the team and the parent (note, parent must be present) - or they could be used if the team is coming back together to address changes in services.

We have had a question about whether a team has to come together in order to determine whether there is a need for an additional assessment by another discipline. Team members should all participate in such a decision, but they don't have to come together. If any one member of the team suggests that an additional assessment is needed, the SC should communicate with all team members to see if this is a need. If the team members agree, the SC can assist the family to select someone with the appropriate expertise to address those areas that the current team members are not able to address (this would be the only reason for getting another assessment - if the current team members do not have the expertise needed to assist the child/family in the identified area, and the team agrees this is a need.).

We recognize that there may be situations where parents request an evaluation by another discipline - but that is a Part C service only when the team members agree that additional assessment is needed.

After the assessment is completed, the team will come together to review the information and

determine how it may affect the outcomes, strategies, and possibly services. This meeting may occur at the 6-month or annual review, or in between those meetings if necessary. Reimbursement for a meeting in the interim period would fall under the “up to 4 additional units” category.

I'm sure there will be other questions, and we will address those as quickly as possible. Please don't respond directly to this email – you can use my email address at [pamroush@wvdhhr.org](mailto:pamroush@wvdhhr.org), or forward your questions through your regional TA Specialist.

Thank you.

Pam