



Division of Behavioral Health Services
Office of Compliance

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TO: RBHA and TRBHA CEOs

FROM: Cory Nelson
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SUBJECT: POLICY CLARIFICATION: Alignment of the ADHS/DBHS Encounter Validation Error Rate for Encounters at 5%

DATE: October 30, 2014

This memorandum is intended to clarify the responsibilities of Tribal and Regional Behavioral Health Authorities (T/RBHAs) and T/RBHA providers in meeting the Arizona Department of Health Services/Division of Behavioral Health Services' (ADHS/DBHS) expectations regarding standardization of an allowable error rate for Encounter Validation.

In an effort to align ADHS/DBHS and AHCCCS standards regarding allowable error rates for encounter validation studies, ADHS/DBHS is establishing a 5% error rate for all encounters. The 5% allowable error rate is applied to encounter submissions in the areas of accuracy, timeliness and omissions.

ADHS/DBHS will begin using this standard statewide as of December 1, 2014. ADHS/DBHS will incorporate this requirement in the next revision of the ADHS/DBHS [Policy and Procedures Manual, Policy 1704, Encounter Validation Studies](#). T/RBHAs must update the T/RBHA editions of the Provider Manual and distribute this information to their subcontracted providers.

Questions regarding this clarification may be directed to Bill Eichelberger, ADHS/DBHS Bureau Chief of Policy at (602) 364-4655 or William.Eichelberger@azdhs.gov