



MaineCare Services
An Office of the
Department of Health and Human Services

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TO: Providers of Case Management Services for Children with Behavioral Health Disorders and Developmental Disabilities /Intellectual Disabilities

FROM: Stefanie Nadeau, Director, MaineCare Services *snadeau*

SUBJECT: Clarification of Assessment Tools

DATE: November 8, 2013

This letter is to clarify the approval of an additional tool that will meet the MaineCare Benefits Manual Chapter II, Section 13, Targeted Case Management, Eligibility Criteria for Children with Behavioral Health Disorders and Developmental Disabilities/Intellectual Disabilities.

The Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths Assessment (CANS) is an open domain tool that addresses the mental health of children, adolescents and their families, as well as needs and strengths regarding developmental disabilities/intellectual disabilities and autism spectrum disorders. The Department has rigorously researched the CANS and agrees that the individualized detail of this assessment in combination with its intervention service planning capabilities make it a superior tool for efficient and responsive client service delivery and has approved it for immediate use.

The Child and Adolescent Functional Assessment Scales (CAFAS) is currently the approved assessment tool for eligibility for Children with Behavioral Health Disorders and the Children's Habilitation Assessment Tool (CHAT) is currently approved assessment tool for children with developmental disabilities/intellectual disabilities. The provider will now have a choice of using the CANS instead of the CAFAS or CHAT to meet this requirement. The CHAT and CAFAS still meet the requirement.

The Department will promulgate rules in the future to reflect this policy clarification. If you have any questions regarding the policy, please contact your Provider Relations Specialist by visiting the policy assignment breakdown on MaineCare's website at: http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/oms/pdfs_doc/resrcs/PR_Policy_Assignments.pdf

cc: Therese Cahill-Low, Director, Child and Family Services