

# Bulletin



August 2, 2010

## **Level of care assessments and the use of the Level of Care Utilization System (LOCUS) tool for selected adult mental health services**

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota and Blue Plus (Blue Cross) expect providers of ARMHS, IRTS, Partial, Day Treatment, ACT and ICRS to use the LOCUS tool for Minnesota Health Care Program members as directed by the Department of Human Services (DHS) in Bulletin #09-53-04C, published June 25, 2010. The LOCUS will be a part of the actual eligibility determination for the services listed above.

The required use of the LOCUS **does** apply to adult MH-TCM providers as clarified in a communication from the Adult Mental Health Division/DHS dated July 21, 2010. The LOCUS will be used for the purpose of helping to determine appropriate referrals to services.

Currently, Blue Cross does not require providers to pre-certify these services. However, Blue Cross will require providers to follow the DHS directive regarding the use of the LOCUS beginning October 1, 2010.

### **Questions?**

If you have questions, please contact provider services at **(651) 662-5200** or toll free at **1-800-262-0820**.