When the rule speaks of Advanced Practice Nurses in section 132.150, what is the definition of advanced practice nurse. I am assuming this is a Psychiatric APN correct? The rule does not provide this definition.

Answer: The rule defines LPHA as "...an advanced practice nurse with psychiatric specialty licensed under the Nurse Practice Act..."

Will the state provide support in development of a staffing formula?

Answer: Staffing requirements are listed under each service definition in Rule 132.

Occupational Therapists have always been expert at many of the areas highlighted in the Recovery Model: teaching independent living skills, vocational skills, strengths-based approach, experiential learning, community reintegration, holistic view, etc. Why are they not the recommended service providers?

Answer: Occupational therapists are eligible to provide interventions and receive reimbursement as Qualified Mental Health Professionals for all Rule 132 services (see rule 132.25). Occupational Therapist Assistants are included in the rule as Mental Health Professionals.

1) Can agencies bill for psychological testing done by practicum students, interns or postdoctoral candidates under the supervision of a licensed clinical psychologist? According to the Medicaid rule "...a master's level professional may assist." 2) Can an intern without a master's degree be deemed a master's level professional?

Answer: No. Master's level means possessing a master's degree. Billing for Psychological evaluation services must be consistent with the Service Definition and Reimbursement Guide and the Clinical Psychologist Licensing Act (225 ILCS 15). The practice of clinical psychology is regulated, and includes the use of psychological testing and assessment. A person represents him/herself to be a "clinical psychologist" when s/he renders clinical psychological services for remuneration. No one, without a valid license as a clinical psychologist, shall in any manner render or offer to render clinical psychological services. Providers may employ practicum students, interns or postdoctoral candidates to assist in the rendering of services, provided that such employees function under the direct supervision, order, control and full professional responsibility of a licensed clinical psychologist. 59 IAC 132.148b), 225 ILCS 15, 68 IAC 1400.

I am looking for clarification on the number of hours that constitutes one year of supervised experience. Can contact hours for seminars and workshops or college credit hours be included in that number?

Answer: 1500 hours constitutes one year. No, contact hours for seminars, workshops or college credits may not be included those hours. It is 1500 hours of supervised WORK experience.

An ACT Team leader must be a QMHP and have a license. What type of license? Would an RN satisfy the license requirement?

Answer: The definition of licensed clinician included in Rule 132 is: An individual who is either a licensed practitioner of the healing arts (LPHA); a licensed social worker (LSW) possessing at least a master's degree in social work and licensed under the Clinical Social Work and Social Work Practice Act [225 ILCS 20] with specialized training in mental health services or with at least two years experience in mental health services; a licensed professional counselor (LPC) possessing at least a master's degree and licensed under the Professional Counselor and Clinical Professional Counselor Licensing Act [225 ILCS 107] with specialized training in mental health services or with at least two years experience in mental health services; a registered nurse (RN) licensed under the Nurse Practice Act [225 ILCS 65] with at least one year of clinical experience in a mental health setting or who possesses a master's degree in psychiatric nursing; or an occupational therapist (OT) licensed under the Illinois Occupational Therapy Practice Act [225 ILCS 75] with at least one year of clinical experience in a mental health setting.
7. What is an acceptable number of non-licensed staff for group supervision by an LPHA or QMHP (132.70 d)?
   Answer: The rule sets no limit. It must be decided by the L or Q as to what is an appropriate number of staff for whom they can provide simultaneous supervision.

8. There is an expectation that non-licensed staff receive at least one hour of clinical supervision per month. Our agency has many hours-to-be-reported staff who provide a minimal number of hours of service to clients (for example they work one 8-hour shift per week, are part time respite workers, or work overnight when clients are sleeping.) Is the expectation for supervision the same for these staff as for full-time clinical employees?
   Answer: Yes.

9. We have 2 new MHPs, both with master's degrees and 600 hours practicum. Must we wait a full year before moving them to QMHP, or can we allow their practicum hours and status them as QMHP after they complete an additional 400 hours here?
   Answer: If the master's degree and 600 hours of practicum are relevant, an additional 400 hours would fulfill the 1,000-hour requirements.

10. How does a licensed psychologist (Psy D) who supervises doctoral students bill psychological testing done by BA/BS students doing their externships?
    Answer: The assistance by the students is not billable. The rule states in 132.148 b) that "a master's level professional may assist" and these students do not meet the criteria.

11. Is it correct that the 1hr/mo of clinical supervision for non-licensed staff can be completed by either a QMHP (not necessarily licensed) or an LPHA?
    Answer: Supervision of non-licensed staff must be provided by a QMHP or LPHA.

12. Why doesn't the State of Illinois recognize Certified Psychiatric Rehabilitation Practitioners (CPRP) through the United States Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association (USPRA), formerly IAPRS? Individuals with this credential are better credentialed/trained to provide psychiatric rehabilitation services than other licensed persons.
    Answer: CPRPs have a wide range of education and experience. Those levels of credentials may be recognized as an RSA, MHP or QMHP as appropriate.

13. Are LPNs required to receive the one hour training per month by a Q-RN?
    Answer: No. They are licensed.

14. How can we provide clinical supervision for staff who don't have a primary caseload, i.e., residential staff providing monitoring & assistance services such as community support?
    Answer: By supervising the services they provide.

15. How is the "Plan for clinical supervision of all non-licensed staff" of "1 hour per month" requirement billed & reimbursed to the provider agency? If it is not staff development and training, what is it, from a billing aspect?
    Answer: It is not a 132 billable service.

16. Does the 1 hr/mo supervision for non-licensed staff include people without client contact such as medical records staff?
    Answer: No.

17. Does documentation of clinical supervision need to include only that supervision took place or does it require documentation of the content of that supervision?
    Answer: It requires documentation of the content of the supervision.

18. Who is defined as LPHA within the nursing field?
Answer: An advanced practice nurse with psychiatric specialty licensed under the Nursing and Advanced Practice Nursing Act [225 ILCS 65].

19. Why are RNs with Master's degree and extensive MH experience not included as LPHA/not allowed to determine medical necessity?
Answer: An LPHA, within the scope of State law, must have the ability to independently make a clinical assessment, certify a diagnosis and prescribe treatment for persons with a mental illness.

20. In my experience, persons in active recovery are at times too close to the problem to be effective staff members. Would you recommend a specific period of recovery time prior to hire, or perhaps a specialized training for persons in recovery?
Answer: No. We encourage you to review the Recovery Services Resource Handbook on the DMH website.

21. Can an LSW supervisor without a master's degree provide clinical supervision to non-licensed staff and meet the intent of the new monthly supervision requirement?
Answer: The requirement for supervision is that it must be done by an LPHA or QMHP. Anyone who qualifies as either may do the supervision.

22. Does "RSA" include paid clerical staff at an agency?
Answer: Only if they are providing and billing for Part 132 services as an RSA.

23. Define clinical supervision - specifically in regard to providing it to direct line staff in a Residential Treatment setting who are not clinically trained or without a clinical background.
Answer: Supervision would be oversight assuring that what they are doing is clinically appropriate.

24. Licensure requires only a bachelor's degree, hours of supervision and passing the exam. Therefore, is an LPC without a master's degree still eligible as a QMHP?
Answer: No. The definition in 59 Ill. Adm. Code 132 includes an LPC in the definition of QMHP as follows: an LPC "possessing at least a master's degree and licensed under the Professional Counselor and Clinical Professional Counselor Licensing Act [225 ILCS 107] with at least two years experience in mental health services."

25. Is monthly clinical supervision required for staff who only provide crisis intervention services for dually-diagnosed (DD primary, residential) clients?
Answer: Rule 132 requires staff supervision of all QMHPs, MHPs and RSAs who provide Rule 132 services. Crisis intervention is a Rule 132 service. Therefore, monthly staff supervision of the staff that provide crisis services is required.

26. I am looking for clarification on the number of hours that constitutes one year of supervised experience. Can contact hours for seminars and workshops or college credit hours be included in that number?
Answer: 1500 hours constitutes one year. No, contact hours for seminars, workshops or college credits may not be included those hours. It is 1500 hours of supervised WORK experience. One year is a period of 12 months consisting of no less than 1500 supervised work hours. Working more hours than 1500 in a 12 month period of time does not equate to more than one year. (2/22/11)

27. How should part time experience be calculated? This person was working for us part time in 2006 and 2007, moving to full time in 2008 (see chart below). Do the years where her work experience was under 1500 not count or should it be counted as a % of 1500 hours per year for those years?
   a. YEAR HOURS
   b. 2010 1888.00
28. Does DMH recognize degrees conferred in foreign countries when a degree is required in Rule 132?
   Answer: Yes, DMH recognizes such a degree. However, when a licensed professional is required, the license must be granted in Illinois. (5/31/11)

29. Does it matter if the year of clinical experience under the supervision of a QMHP occurs before or after the master's degree is obtained?
   Answer: No, it doesn't. (5/31/11)

30. Are 132 community providers required to hire psychologists?
   Answer: DMH doesn't require community providers to hire psychologists. However, when something must be done by a psychologist, such as psychological evaluation, it must be done by a psychologist. (5/31/11)

31. Would passing of the exam for a Certified Recovery Support Specialist and having one year of experience qualify me to bill as an MHP under Medicaid Rule 132?
   Answer: As long as you meet the definition of MHP in Rule 132, you would qualify. (9/1/11)

32. May a physician assistant administer medications?
   Answer: If the PA qualifies as someone licensed to administer medications through either the Nursing and Advanced Practice Nursing Act or the Medical Practice Act (as stated in Rule 132), then, yes. However, it is important to note that a PA is not recognized by Rule 132 as an LPHA. (9/1/11)

33. If an RN who has 7 years of experience working in substance abuse facility treating substance abuse problems as a primary but the majority (75%) of these patients have a secondary diagnosis like schizophrenia and bipolar under axis 1 code 2, would this RN meet the rule 132 criteria under licensed clinician for this RN?
   Answer: The RN can work as an MHP under the supervision of a QMHP. Following the completion of a year of supervised mental health work, the RN would then qualify as a licensed clinician and as a QMHP. (3/1/12)