



ADMINISTRATIVE/FISCAL/CLINICAL/PHF POLICY AND PROCEDURES

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
ALCOHOL, DRUG AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Section - QUALITY ASSURANCE	Effective: 3/21/2012
Policy - #87 DEFINITION OF LONG-TERM CLIENT	Revised:
Director's Approval <u><i>[Signature]</i></u>	Date <u>6/20/12</u>
Deputy Director's Approval <u><i>[Signature]</i></u>	Date <u>3/12</u>
Form Ref. -	Reviewed:

POLICY:

It is the policy of the Santa Barbara County Mental Health Plan (SBC MHP) to comply with all relevant state and federal regulations, as well as all requirements related to program and chart reviews by the State of California.

The Review Protocol developed and used by the California Department of Mental Health for 2011-12 (Section J, item 3f) states that "When the beneficiary is a long-term client, as defined by the MHP, and the client is receiving more than one type of service, the client's signature, or an explanation of why the signature could not be obtained, is documented on the plan."

The MHP is therefore required, for this purpose, to define "long-term client." Since it is MHP policy that the signature of the client or legal guardian, or an explanation of why the signature could not be obtained, must be included on every Client Plan for clients receiving outpatient services other than Crisis Intervention for 60 days or more, the MHP uses that standard to define "long-term" client.

DEFINITION:

"Long-term client" means any client who has received outpatient mental health services through the MHP, except Crisis Intervention services, for 60 days or longer.

Assistance: Quality Assurance Manager

Reference:

Replaces: