BERRIEN MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY
-- PROCEDURE --

SUBJECT: USE OF NON-TRADITIONAL THERAPIES	SECTION: 02-52-01 Page 1 of 1
APPLICATION: All Direct Operated & Contractual Employees EFFECTIVE DATE: 8/26/98 APPROVED BY: _____ Chief Executive Officer REVISED: 9/99, 3/02, 3/05, 09/08, 8/10, 6/13	REQUIRED BY:

POLICY:
It is the policy of Berrien Mental Health Authority (BMHA) to require approval for the use of non-traditional therapies. Approval must be requested and obtained in writing from the Director of Services or Medical Director.

PURPOSE:
To assure that only those methods and techniques that are generally accepted by the applicable professions are used.

STANDARDS:
The provision of therapeutic services shall conform to the commonly accepted teaching and training practices of accredited colleges, universities, and scholarly journals.

DEFINITIONS:
Non-traditional therapy: a therapeutic strategy or intervention which falls outside of an empirically based practice which has a substantial scholarly research base.

PROCEDURE:
1. When an employee is uncertain as to whether a therapeutic practice falls within the "commonly accepted" category of interventions, or is requesting to use non-traditional therapy, he/she shall consult with their supervisor.
2. The supervisor shall forward the request in writing to the Director of Services or Medical Director to obtain prior approval.
3. The Director of Services or Medical Director shall consult with each other. The CEO will be included in the decision. The supervisor and clinician will be informed of the decision in writing.

FORMS:
None

Reviewer(s): Office of Recipient Rights; Director of Services
Reviewed: 3/08, 9/08, 8/09, 8/10, 9/11, 9/12, 6/13, 8/14, 6/15, 5/16, 4/17, 3/18, 5/2020, 10/2021, 5/2022, 8/2023, 6/2024, 6/2025