



**Mississippi Department of Mental Health**  
**Provider Bulletin**  
**Number PR0042**

**Subject:** Transition to DSM-5

**Issue Date:** May 11, 2015

**Effective Date:** May 11, 2015

**Scope**

All DMH Certified Providers

**Purpose:**

To outline DMH expectations for transition to the DSM-5

**Background:**

The DMH Operational Standards for Mental Health, Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Community Service Providers (Rule 16.1) require DMH certified provider agencies to make determinations regarding serious mental illness and serious emotional disturbance based in part on meeting diagnostic criteria defined in the “most current version of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM)”.

The DSM contains diagnostic criteria for psychiatric disorders. The DSM is utilized by private practitioners and state systems throughout the United States as the standard for classification of mental/psychiatric disorders. The American Psychiatric Association published the 5<sup>th</sup> edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5) in mid-2013. This publication brought forth many revisions to define disorders and characterize symptoms and behaviors.

**Subject:**

With the ICD-10 implementation on the horizon (October 1, 2015), the Mississippi Department of Mental Health (DMH) will officially transition to the DSM-5 beginning July 1, 2015 with full implementation occurring by October 1, 2015. DMH will begin to monitor compliance with DMH Operational Standards by verifying that all DMH certified providers are utilizing the DSM-5 as the “most current version of the DSM”

To assist certified providers with developing a plan to transition from the DSM-IV to the DSM-5, DMH's Medical Director, Dr. Robert Maddux, has recommended several courses that are available through Relias Learning to assist staff with understanding the importance of the DSM revisions. Dr. Maddux is in the process of reaching out to the leadership of each DMH certified agency to provide information on the recommended training courses.

*End of Provider Bulletin*