Position Statement on Psychiatry and Primary Care Integration across the Lifespan

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“Policy documents are approved by the APA Assembly and Board of Trustees…These are…position statements that define APA official policy on specific subjects…” – APA Operations Manual.

- Access to and payment for clinically appropriate services provided by psychiatrists should be included as an essential feature in medical/health home initiatives.
- Parity of benefits design for beneficiaries as well as parity in payment for all physicians, particularly psychiatric that does not discriminate by location of service or diagnosis should be provided.
- Psychiatrists should have choices of participation in a new health system, such as fully integrated clinicians and/or managers of the system, as collaborative care partners, and as consultants to it.
- The exact financial formula for these choices should be negotiated such that it is compatible with parity and nondiscrimination regarding both psychiatric patients and psychiatric physicians.

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