

Resource Guide

This packet contains information regarding the services and population-base of Prosperity. We are here to help. If you have any questions about the information contained herein please contact us at 703-466-5150 x 803

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Program Overview

Prosperity Eating Disorders and Wellness offers evidence-based, comprehensive and holistic treatment to individuals struggling with eating disorders, depression, anxiety, and self-esteem. Our therapists and nutritionists use an empathetic approach to using evidence-based theories to treat the whole person. Our goal is to help individuals struggling with Eating Disorders and co-occurring illnesses find a full recovery by meeting their psychological, medical, nutritional, spiritual, emotional and relational needs. With locations in Herndon and Norfolk, Prosperity is equipped to serve the needs of adolescents and adults throughout Virginia.

Who We Treat:

Prosperity offers individualized treatment for teens and adults struggling to overcome eating disorders and co-occurring illness including but not limited to:

- Anorexia Nervosa
- Bulimia Nervosa
- Binge Eating Disorder (BED)
- Unspecified Eating Disorders (ED NOS)
- Anxiety Disorders
- Mood Disorders
- Trauma and PTSD
- Self-harm

Our Approach to Treatment:

At Prosperity, we believe that recovery is a process, and aim to provide a variety of evidence-based psychological, nutritional, experiential, and wellness approaches. Intensive Outpatient (IOP) group composition is carefully designed by our providers by age and developmental level rather than by diagnosis. Our approaches include:

- Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT)
- Art Therapy
- Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT)
- Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT)
- Interpersonal Therapy
- Nutritional Therapy
- Therapeutic Yoga
- Trauma-Informed Care
- Supportive meals

Our Services:

Partial Hospitalization Program (Adolescents and Adults)

Our program is designed for client's for the age of 10-17 and 18 and up, of all genders and sexual orientation. It is a comprehensive, evidence-based program designed to address the unique needs, strengths, and interests of our clients and their family system. After an initial assessment, we will recommend a treatment plan that may include groups, nutrition services, and/or clinical pharmacology management with a contracted psychologist.

Services in PHP include:

Twice a week individual sessions with an eating disorder expert

Twice a week individual sessions a registered dietitian

Once weekly appointment with a psychiatrist

Weekly family therapy session

Group Therapies including CBT, DBT, RODBT, Art and Yoga.

Onsite two homemade meals and two snacks in accordance with client's meal plan.

Intensive Outpatient Program (Adolescents and Adults)

Our program is designed for client's for the age of 10-17 and 18 and up, of all genders and sexual orientation. It is a comprehensive, evidence-based program designed to address the unique needs, strengths, and interests of our clients and their family system. After an initial assessment, we will recommend a treatment plan that may include groups, nutrition services, and/or clinical pharmacology management with an outside contracted psychiatrist. Please note that IOP does not include psychiatric services. Services in IOP include:

Meal support : Clients are expected to bring their own appropriate meal to two evenings. One evening the meal is catered.

Group therapies including Body Bio, DBT, CBT, Art, Process and Yoga

One weekly individual session with their therapist

One weekly individual session session with their dietitian

Top Ten Commonly Asked Questions:

Do you accept insurance?

We are currently in network with Aetna, Anthem, BCBS, CareFirst, Cigna, Tricare and Beacon Health. We also work with many out of network insurance companies to provide single case agreements (SCA) for in-network rates for full IOP or PHP treatment.

What is the financial commitment?

Please speak with your intake provider for pricing. If filing with health insurance, Prosperity will work with you and your insurance company to explore your unique rate after the initial intake. Most insurance companies require clinical information collected during the initial intake to move forward with financial agreements.

How long will treatment last?

Each person is different! Typically, we recommend a minimum of one month commitment; treatment at the IOP level can last one to four months. PHP is typically 4-12 weeks

How many hours/week is PHP and IOP?

IOP consists of a minimum of nine hours/week of group therapy over three days, including one meal support group per day, nutritional counseling, family and individual therapy. We also offer a 5 day a week IOP program during the daytime. Our PHP program consists of a minimum of 35 hours/week of group therapy over five days, including two meal support groups per day. As research indicates that the most effective eating disorder treatment includes group, individual, nutrition, medical, and family therapy, we require clients to attend a minimum of one hour per week of individual therapy, nutrition therapy, and often family therapy.

Can I continue to see my outside providers while doing IOP?

You can continue to see your outside provider, but you must also see a therapist at Prosperity, as this is the best way that we can help you reach your full recovery. We will ask you to sign a release of information so that Prosperity can collaborate with your outside providers.

Where can I stay if I am coming from a long distance?

We have negotiated discounted rates with local extended stay hotels in the area. Please inquire with our staff regarding the specifics. Financial Assistance for temporary housing for PHP participants is available for clients meeting our Financial Hardship guidelines. Please ask for an application if you require assistance.

How many people are in a group, and what will we have in common?

Groups typically range from 5-10 people. Teens and adults are separated in order to provide appropriate care.

How are families involved in treatment?

Working with families is essential in helping your loved one with an eating disorder. Prosperity highly recommends family therapy to our clients. We also offer a free family support group on a weekly or biweekly basis. Parents and caregivers of teens will work closely with your child's individual therapist to feel included in the treatment process.

What are the staff credentials?

In addition to state licensing and registration in areas including social work, counseling, psychology, art therapy, and nutrition, our therapists and nutritionists are focused on providing the most up to date eating disorder treatment by maintaining continuing education in eating disorder specific care. Credentials vary across providers, information is available on our website.

We are Joint Commission Accredited and Licensed by the State of Virginia.

What outcome can I expect from treatment?

Expect to learn coping skills, psycho-education, and nutritional approaches to challenge and decrease symptoms, modulate mood, increase distress tolerance, increase self-esteem, explore identity, increase healthy relationships, and maintain a healthy meal plan with the intention of moving towards intuitive eating.

Is this the appropriate level of care for me or my loved one?

Please see the table below for additional information.

What is the Appropriate Level of Care for Myself or My Loved One?

Adapted from NEDA's Webinar "Levels of Care in Eating Disorder Treatment"

F	Adapted from NEDA's Webinar "Levels of Care in Eating Disorder Treatment"				
	Medical Criteria	Psychiatric Criteria	Average Length of Stay	Supervision	Average Cost
Inpatient Treatment	Medically Unstable; Unhealthy vital signs, acute risk shown in laboratory findings, risk of medical complications	Rapidly worsening symptoms Suicidal or unable to contract for safety	Several weeks to months	24/7 supervision; includes meals, bathroom and medical monitoring	\$500-\$2,000 /day \$30,000/ month
Residential Treatment	Stable	Not responding to PHP or outpatient	2 weeks to 1 year	24/7 supervision and medical monitoring; includes meals and medical monitoring	\$1-2,000/day, \$30,000/ month
Partial Hospitalizatio n (PHP)	Medically stable; needs physiologic and mental status assessment	Struggling to function socially, academically, vocationally	4-6 weeks	5-7 days/week; includes meals, sleep off-site	\$650-\$850/ day
Intensive Outpatient Programming (IOP)	rogramming Stable; Stable; minimum 9 integrating 4 weeks to hours/week;		\$430-\$550/ day		
Outpatient Treatment	- I (O		Varies; up to \$100,000/ year		

Financial Considerations - Billing, Insurance, and Payment

Some insurance companies will consider Prosperity at the in-network rate if provided appropriate clinical information. Please ask your intake provider about this process if you wish to pursue a single case agreement (SCA). Please note that if you plan to request in-network insurance coverage for IOP services, you may be required to attend a minimum number of treatment hours per week.

Additional Information about payment and Insurance:

A single case agreement means that services provided by Prosperity would be treated as "in network" and you would have in network coverage per your insurance plan. While we cannot guarantee the single case agreement (SCA) would be approved, we are happy to try to arrange this.

Payment for services is as follows:

The cost per day of IOP (three groups, three times/ week, a half hour of Nutrition Counseling and an hour of Individual Counseling and an hour of family counseling, if desired) is \$495.00/ day and the cost per day of PHP (a full day of therapy, nutrition, psychiatry, family therapy and a full day of groups) groups is \$695.00. We have contracted for different rates with certain insurance companies. If we obtain a Single Case Agreement with your insurance, we may negotiate for a lower rate with your insurance company. However, you will still be responsible for any in-network co-pays or co-ins that your plan requires.

How does an SCA get initiated?

After you or your loved one attend a therapeutic intake with one of our providers, the provider will complete an initial assessment that will then be submitted to our billing company. Our billing company will then contact your insurance company with the necessary clinical information and attempt to initiate an SCA. If an SCA is approved, your provider will contact you immediately with pertinent details.

If your insurance does not allow a Single Case Agreement, your insurance will be billed as "out of network." Your insurance provider will generally issue payments directly to you, the client, therefore we will require that you establish a payment plan with Prosperity. As you receive checks from your insurance provider, those amounts must be promptly paid to Prosperity so long as your account has an outstanding balance. Like many medical and service offices, we understand that insurance has limitations and it is our desire to make services affordable for those who need them, therefore we offer both financial assistance and extended payment plans to those who qualify. Please see table below:

Pricing for our Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP)

If you do not have insurance:

Cost of IOP for Self Pay is (includes weekly Individual Therapy and Nutrition Counseling from a provider at Prosperity): \$495 per night, \$1,485 per week*. If you qualify for a payment plan:

Payment Plan	1 Night of IOP	1 Full Week of IOP
A: 10% of Cost	\$49.50	\$148.50
B: 15% of Cost	\$74.25	\$222.75
C: 25% of Cost	\$123.75	\$371.25
D: 50% of Cost	\$247.50	\$742.50

Please note, if you opt to participate in one of our payment plans, you will be charged weekly until the balance for all services rendered is met. If we are submitting to insurance on your behalf, what is paid to Prosperity by your insurance provider will be applied to your balance. Payment plans will be extended a maximum of 6 months past the time treatment is completed. At that time, any remaining balance is due in full.

^{*} Psychiatric services are **not** included in IOP pricing.

Intensive Outpatient	0905 or S9480 : \$495 per day
Services	
Partial Hospitalization	Hoo35 code: \$695 per day
Program	

Interns can provide services at a reduced fee, as availability allows. If you are interested in receiving services from an intern, please contact Prosperity's direct number at 703-466-5150 for more information.

Common Insurance Questions

- How do we get this started?
 - o The provider will need the name(s) of the insured, a copy of the insurance card, birthday, phone number, and address to call the insurance company and determine available benefits.
 - o The family/individual is then informed of the benefit information and coverage of services by the medical billing specialist or individual therapist.
- What happens once I know my benefits information?
 - o The client would then complete an assessment with the clinical provider to identify diagnoses, treatment plan, medical records, and coordinate with the interdisciplinary team as needed. Recommendations for treatment are provided to the client. Payment for services are expected on the date of service.
 - The clinician then calls the insurance to obtain authorization and/or establish a Single Case Agreement, if available through the plan
- How is this processed after services are received?
 - o Dates of service are captured by the individual providers and sent to the medical billing specialist.
 - o The medical billing specialist then sends the records of services to the insurance company for payment and/or reimbursement
- Will I receive an invoice?
 - o If you are paying up-front for services you will receive an invoice each week with the record of payment
- When can I anticipate repayment from insurance?
 - o All insurance companies are different but typically reimbursement is received within 6-12 weeks from the date of submission.
- What else do I need to know?
 - o If you pay in full up front, but the insurance issues payment to Prosperity, we will send you the refund amount as quickly as possible once it is received.

Invoicing for Services

After we have submitted your claims to insurance and they have paid according to your insurance policy, any remaining balance will be sent to you for payment. Typically this is 4-6 weeks after your first service, as insurance takes 2-6 weeks to process claims. Any co-pays will be due on a weekly basis.

Financial considerations

Additionally, Prosperity is an approved provider with Albemarle County's CSA program offering funding assistance for children, teens, and families in our community. We also offer a sliding scale for applicants who meet our guidelines for Financial Hardship.

How Can I Make an Appointment?

You can easily schedule an initial intake appointment by calling our office directly:

Herndon: 703-466-5150 x 803 Norfolk: 757-934-8800

After you have completed an initial intake and have a treatment plan in place, you can work directly with your providers to schedule ongoing follow-up appointments.

What information should I prepare for my initial assessment?

The first step in eating disorder recovery is to meet with a psychotherapist specializing in the care of eating disorder treatment for an assessment. At Prosperity, you can expect the initial session to last up to two hours and include an introduction to our program in addition to a thorough history of you or your loved one. It is our goal for you and your family to leave the initial session with a detailed treatment plan including scheduling for IOP groups, individual therapy, family therapy, and nutrition therapy, along with an understanding of the financial commitment to treatment.

Please provide the following prior to your initial appointment:

- Recent medical or psychiatric testing, discharge paperwork, etc.
- Health Insurance Card
- Contact information for outside treatment providers
- Background information form
- Current work/school schedule
- You will be asked to provide medical information including a medical clearance from your doctor, blood-work, an EKG in order to begin IOP services
- Completion of patient portal documents

We wanted to highlight some important policies:

We do not carry a pager nor provide 24 hour coverage. If you are experiencing a
mental health emergency and do not hear back from us in 30 minutes, go to your
nearest emergency room.

Sample Adult IOP Group Schedule

Prosperity Eating Disorders and Wellness Center provides comprehensive services for adults with eating disorders. This is a constructive and safe environment for individuals to gain skills and resources that are meaningful to lasting recovery.

ADULT GROUP SCHEDULE				
Time	Monday	Tuesday	Thursday	
	Free Family Support Group (First Monday of Every Month)*			
5:00PM	Body Image	Body Bio	DBT/CBT	
6:00PM	Meal Support	BED Yoga Meal Support	Meal Support	
7:00PM	Empowered Relationships	Life Skills / Process	Art Therapy	

Sample Teen IOP Group Schedule

Prosperity Eating Disorders and Wellness Center provides comprehensive services for teens with eating disorders. Many eating disorders develop in adolescence and without treatment can progress into a lifelong illness. Prosperity offers a variety of groups designed to address the multiple drivers and underpinnings that contribute to successful recovery.

TEEN GROUP SCHEDULE				
Time	Monday	Tuesday	Thursday	
	Free Family Support Group - Mondays 6pm virtual			
5:00PM	Process	DBT	Body Bio	
6:00PM	Meal Support	Meal Support	Meal Support (catered)	
7:00PM	Body Image	Creative Expressions	Social Supports	

Sample Day Treatment/Partial Hospitalization Program

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:00 am	Arrival/Vitals/ Weights	Arrival/Vitals/ Weights	Arrival/Vitals/ Weights	Arrival/Vitals/ Weights	Arrival/Vitals/ Weights
8:15	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
9:00	Weekend Check in and Goals	ACT	Body Image	ACT	Relapse Prevention
10:00	Creative Expressions	Body Bio/Nutrition	Wellness Practice (yoga, acupuncture, meditation, movement therapy, mindfulness)	Body Image	Wellness Practice (yoga, acupuncture, meditation, movement therapy, mindfulness)
11:00	Individual Sessions/ Independent study work	Individual Sessions/ Independent study work	Individual Sessions/ Independent study work	Individual Sessions/ Independent study work	Individual Sessions/ Independent study work
12:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch Psychiatric appts (12-3pm)	Catered or lunch outing	Cooking lunch
1:00	DBT	Life Skills	Empowered Relations	DBT	Weekend Planning
2:00	Art Therapy	Wellness Practice (yoga, acupuncture, meditation, movement therapy, mindfulness)	Music Therapy	Wellness Practice (yoga, acupuncture, meditation, movement therapy, mindfulness)	Art Therapy
3:00	Snack	Journal/snack	Journal/snack	Journal/snack	Journal/snack

Prosperity Eating Disorders and Wellness Center provides comprehensive services for both teens and adults with eating disorders at our Herndon and Norfolk locations. Many eating disorders develop in adolescence and without treatment can progress into a lifelong illness. Prosperity offers a variety of groups designed to address the multiple drivers and underpinnings that contribute to successful recovery.

Group Name	Group Therapy Descriptions
Art Therapy	Art is an expressive modality that allows clients to explore boundaries in relation to rules and freedom associated with body love as well as inter and intrapersonal dynamics.
Body Bio	This group allows clients to explore food myths and rules as well as discuss the role and expectation food plays in our lives. In this, education on food and the body are addressed.
Body Image	Addresses the challenges, successes, and influences of body image on self-esteem throughout the recovery process.
CBT/ DBT	This is a skills group that focuses on the ability to manage distress tolerance and develop interpersonal effectiveness. Clients are encouraged to think about the connection between their thoughts, feelings and behaviors in an effort to develop new cognitive processes.
Empowered Relationships	Our relationship with ourselves and others is explored as it relates to love, trust, patterns, and fears. Relationships can be the greatest source of joy and pain, in this group we discuss the ideal state of our relationships and explore aspects that facilitate or detract from healthy relationships.
Life Skills and Process	Clients are able to process life events, patterns, and recent stressors or successes in a supportive environment. This is done to facilitate effective functioning throughout the recovery process
Meal Support	This involves eating with others in a safe environment where goals, challenges, and successes can be processed and shared. Meals are required to meet standard criteria so that clients are able to explore well rounded meals that meet their nutritional needs.
Mindfulness	As part of the holistic approach to wellness, clients are able to explore the benefits of acupuncture, stress reduction and mindfulness yoga, and essential oils.
BED Processing	Clients with Binge Eating Disorder are able to come together and process life experiences, empowerment, and gain insight via psychoeducation and group processing.

Attendance Policy

In an effort to effectively anticipate census, encourage engagement, and effectively track attendance Prosperity will be implementing the attendance compliance policy present in your admission packet. While this policy has been in place, we have not been consistent in implementation. Please see below for a summary of the Policy.

Partial Hospitalization / Intensive Outpatient / Group Attendance

For missed (late cancel/no show) days of PHP or nights of IOP, the first night missed is not charged, the second missed night is half the insurance rate, the third and subsequent missed nights are subject to the full fee for services missed.

Please note the fees are determined based on the insurance rate, and **cannot** be billed through insurance. This applies to all individuals enrolled in PHP or IOP services barring emergencies, which must be vetted as such by your provider. If you know you will not be able to attend programming IOP, please let a provider at Prosperity know at least 24 hours in advance to avoid a fee.

Catered Meal (IOP)

Due to the nature of Catered Meal we need to know if you or your loved one will not be attending the catered supper. We need to have this information by 5PM on the Wednesday night before the Thursday meal support group. If you do not let us know if your cancelation, there will be a \$25 fine. If you RSVP for the catered meal and do not attend, the IOP cancellation fee applies.

Drop In Policy (Group or IOP Attendance)

Due to space restrictions and to honor group dynamics we need to know when you or your loved one will be not be attending groups prior to the Monday of the anticipated participation in IOP. Please coordinate with your primary service provider at Prosperity to confirm your attendance.

Twitter: @ProspEDWELL Instagram: prosperityedwell Facebook: @prosperityedwell

Please sign up for our newsletter to receive important information and stay up to date.

http://prosperityedwell.com/home

Resources for Loved Ones

Eating disorders are very serious illnesses that not only affect the individual suffering, but the loved ones around them as well. If you have a friend or family member in the throes of an eating disorder, you may not know where to turn for help. Even once your loved one is in treatment, it can be hard on you, the caretaker, to find support. It is important to remember that early intervention is an imperative step toward lasting recovery. It is also important that you take care of YOU!

The Alliance for Eating Disorders recommends a simple acronym to help you cope during your loved one's recovery journey:

You didn't CAUSE it.
You can't CONTROL it.
You can learn how NOT to CONTRIBUTE to it.
You need to learn how to COPE with it.
Take CARE of yourself.
Avoid PANIC. It prohibits clear thinking and calm reactions.
Recovery is a PROCESS. Two steps forward, one step back.
PROGRESS, not PERFECTION, is the goal. PATIENCE is critical.
RESPOND instead of REACT.
REMEMBER to listen.
REFLECT and REASON before you speak.
RECOVERY is a journey, a long ROAD that may include RELAPSE.
REACH out to others for love and support.

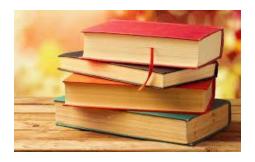
For more information about resources for loved ones, or to contact Prosperity for assistance, visit our website at www.prosperityedwell.com.

*Adapted from The Alliance for Eating Disorders; www.allianceforeatingdisorders.com

Suggested Reading for Loved Ones*

- 100 Questions and Answers About ED Carolyn Costin, MA, MED, MFCC
- Brave Girl Eating Harriet Brown
- **Eating With Your Anorexic** Laura Collins
- How to Nourish your Child through an Eating Disorder Casey Crosbie RD CSSD, Wendy Sterling MS RD CSSD
- **Sick Enough -** Jennifer L. Gaudiani, MD, CEDS, FAED.
- Parent's Guide to Eating Disorders Marcia Herrin, EDD, MPH, RD & Nancy Matsumoto

^{*}Adapted from the Alliance for Eating Disorders, www.allianceforeatingdisorders.com



Online Resources

- Families Empowered and Supporting Treatment of Eating Disorders (FEAST): Empowering families through education, support, and advocacy. www.feast-ed.org
- National Eating Disorders Association (NEDA): Provides support, advocacy, treatment finder, parent and educator toolkits, blogs, and general information regarding eating disorders. www.nationaleatingdisorders.org
- National Association of Anorexia Nervosa and Related Illnesses (ANAD): A long-standing organization dedicated to the prevention and alleviation of eating disorders. www.anad.org
- The Alliance for Eating Disorder Awareness: An organization that endeavors to raise awareness, promote early intervention, and eliminate stigma related to eating disorders. The Alliance publishes Treatment Referral Guides each year for providers and families as they search for the right treatment program. www.allianceforeatingdisorders.com
- Maudsley Parents: A resource website that provides information about Family Based Therapy and links to providers and programs that offer the Maudsley approach. <u>www.maudsleyparents.org</u>
- Eating Disorder Hope: Education and support for individuals suffering from eating disorders and their families and friends. www.eatingdisorderhope.com

<u>Program Requirements for Participation in Prosperity IOP</u> Services:

Medical Stability - you must have this form signed by medical personnel. It is in your initial intake packet, or the provider can coordinate with your PCP. We can coordinate with your medical provider, via fax or phone, to discuss risk factors and confirm stability at this level of care.

Intake Sessions - before being admitted into IOP you must attend intake sessions with a Prosperity therapist and nutritionist. You are welcome to see outside providers for follow up sessions.

Nutrition Support - you must see a nutritionist consistently. At the outpatient level of care, nutrition is the entity that monitors weight and intake. Weekly weigh-ins and

assessments regarding intake vs. nutrition needs and food goals are addressed in these one-on-ones.

Individual Therapy - you must see a therapist consistently. This helps us gauge emotional stability, progress in recovery and develop effective coping strategies that combat the disorder.

Group Attendance - If you are enrolled in IOP, this is based on your insurance and single case agreement. You must attend a full night of IOP in order for claims to be submitted successfully. If for some reason you only attend 1 in an evening, you will be charged \$65.00 per group. If you require 3 or more groups a week (not on the same night) this is considered partial IOP, please confer with your individual provider regarding pricing and insurance. Some insurance companies require 9 hours of participation a week to approve submitted claims, others are more flexible. It is your responsibility to follow up with your insurance to determine participation requirements.

Strongly Encouraged

Family Meetings - at the outpatient level of care, you are our first line of defense in the recovery process. Family meetings allow you and your providers to openly share and discuss progress and observations, education regarding eating disorders and their treatment is also discussed. This time can be set aside by coordinating with your providers, fees apply.

Program Requirements for Participation in Prosperity PHP Services:

Medical Stability - you must have this form signed by medical personnel. It is in your initial intake packet, or the provider can coordinate with your PCP. We can coordinate with your medical provider, via fax or phone, to discuss risk factors and confirm stability at this level of care. Vitals will be taken each morning and action taken as needed.

Intake Sessions - before being admitted into PHP you must attend intake sessions with a Prosperity therapist and nutritionist.

Nutrition Support - you will be scheduled with a nutritionist for individual sessions weekly. You will also be provided with nutrition support at meals and in nutrition groups. Weigh-ins will be blind and happen daily as part of the morning vitals check.

Individual Therapy - you will be scheduled with a therapist twice weekly. One session will be individual and one will be family therapy. This helps us gauge emotional stability, progress in recovery and develop effective coping strategies that combat the disorder. Family Therapy - you will be scheduled with a therapist twice weekly. One session will be individual and one will be family therapy. Families are the first line of defense in the recovery process. Family therapy allow you and your providers to openly share and discuss progress and observations; education regarding eating disorders and their treatment is also discussed.

Group Attendance - Per insurance companies, PHP coverage requires consistent attendance. You must attend a full day of PHP in order for claims to be submitted successfully.

Strongly Encouraged

Family Support Group - this is a free forum for families to ask questions and gain additional information regarding eating disorders, their treatment, and common challenges in the recovery process. This meeting is open to all family members who are concerned for their loved one. This is not for clients.

This meeting occurs every Monday at 6PM.

The Zoom Link is:

https://prosperityedwell.zoom.us/j/91345353003?pwd=ME1jTmlsVitlVDFlQk9lS3VPREg2Zz09

Meeting ID: 913 4535 3003 Passcode: FriendsAndFamily

A Guide to Understanding Insurance

Policies vary, and many people find the terminology confusing. Please refer to this guide to obtain a better understanding of your insurance benefits.

While the staff at Prosperity will do their best to determine and explain your insurance benefits to you, it is the responsibility of each client to maintain familiarity with the intricacies of their unique policy, and to confirm any benefit details provided with their Insurer.

In-Network: This means your insurance company has contracted with a provider to provide services at a reduced rate to any clients of the insurance provider. This saves the Insurer money- that savings is passed on to customers in the form of higher benefit payments and lower deductibles. The client pays only their designated co-insurance or co-pay and the balance is reimbursed directly to the provider.

Out of Network: This means your insurance company does <u>not</u> contract with the provider. They have not negotiated discounted rates with this provider. Because this provider's rates are generally higher than a contracted provider, this costs the insurer more money. To offset this, the insurer reduces the amount they will reimburse for services, by raising the deductible and co-insurance that the client is expected to pay. Any reimbursement for **Out of Network** services is generally paid directly to the client, not the provider.

Allowable Charge: This is the maximum amount that an Insurer has determined they are willing to pay for a particular service. An In-Network provider signs a contract agreeing to accept the allowable charge. An Out of Network provider has not agreed to accept this rate for their services. The Insurer will base co-insurance percentages, deductible accumulations and out of pocket accumulations on the allowable charge, not the actual charge. Clients who see an Out of Network provider are generally responsible for the balance between what the insurer pays and the actual charge. This is referred to as Balance Billing.

Balance Billing: The practice of billing a client for the difference between the Insurer's **allowable charge** and the actual charge, by an **Out of Network** provider, because the provider has not agreed to accept the Insurer's preferred rate for a particular service.

Deductible: This is the amount that an Insurer requires the patient to pay before they will contribute anything towards their care. Often deductibles only apply to certain services. Generally, clients will have separate deductibles for **In-Network** and **Out of Network** benefits. In order for the client to receive the specified benefit, they will need to meet the corresponding deductible.

Co-Insurance: This is the percentage of the **Allowable Charge** that the insurance company has determined the client must pay, ie., if the Insurer says you have a 20% co-insurance, that means they will reimburse for 80% of the **Allowable Charge** and the client is responsible for the remaining 20% (or in the case of an **Out of Network** provider, the remaining 20% **PLUS** any balance between the actual and **allowable charge**) Generally, but not always, when a policy specifies a co-insurance, there is a

deductible that must be met before the insurance company begins to pay that percentage.

Co-pay: This is a flat fee that the Insurer requires the client to pay for a specific service. The Insurer agrees to cover the remainder of the **Allowable Charge**. The co-pay may vary, depending on the policy and the particular service. Often benefits specify different co-pays for individual services. Usually, <u>though not always</u>, co-pays are not subject to the client first meeting a deductible.

Maximum Out of Pocket (OOP): This is a set amount that the insurance company designates the client will ever have to pay <u>during a specified time period</u>. Once a client has spent this much of their own money on qualifying medical expenses, the Insurer will pay 100% of the remaining **Allowable Charges**. Balances after the **allowable** amount do NOT contribute towards the **OOP**, even though the client has paid for them out of their personal funds. Once the **OOP** is met, charges that are incurred which exceed the **Allowable Charge** will not be reimbursed by the insurance company, and will continue to remain the responsibility of the client. Generally, clients will have separate **OOP** for in-network and out of network benefits. In order for the client to receive the specified benefit, they will need to meet the correlating **OOP** amount.

Cross Accumulation: Some policies allow for sharing of the In- Network and Out of Network deductibles and OOP. If your policy cross accumulates, amounts that you pay to both In- Network and Out of Network Providers are pooled towards meeting the deductible and OOP. However, amounts that exceed the designated Allowable Charge for any service do not contribute towards the "pool."

Calendar Year Plan: The policy's benefits begin to accumulate on January 1st of each year and expire on December 31st. If you have a Calendar Year plan, every January 1st, the amount you have previously accumulated towards your deductible or Out of Pocket is re-set to zero. Reimbursement does not resume until the client once again has paid the deductible amount to medical providers.

"Service" or "Plan" Year Policy: The policy's benefits begin to accumulate on a unique specified date, determined by the Insurer each year and expire on the last day proceeding that date of the following year. (Example, a policy may run from November 1, 2018- October 31, 2019) If you have a Service or Plan year Policy, every year on the designated start date, the amount you have previously accumulated towards your deductible or Out of Pocket is re-set to zero. Reimbursement does not resume until the client once again has paid the deductible amount to medical providers.

Prior Authorization/ Pre-certification: Most policies require that you obtain permission to receive certain services before they will agree to pay for them. Prosperity will contact your Insurer and request **Authorization/ Pre-certification**, when necessary, and provide any necessary documentation that is requested by the Insurer in order to obtain it. **Authorizations/ Pre-certifications** are specific for the designated service only, usually for a specified number of visits or designated length of time. When a client will be receiving multiple services at the same facility, **Authorization/ Pre-certification** must be obtained for EACH of those services. They are also specific for **In- Network** or **Out of Network** benefits.

Single Case Agreement (SCA)- Many policies contain a clause that says if an **In-Network** provider is not available to provide a <u>medically necessary</u> service, they agree to allow the client to use In-Network benefits at an Out of Network provider. Typically, this means they agree to enter into a temporary contract with the **Out of Network** provider. The provider and the Insurer negotiate a rate for the specified services. The provider agrees to not charge more than this rate for the services, and the Insurer agrees to allow the client to use their higher in-network benefits for that service. An **SCA** is good for a limited time period, which is specified in the contract, and is not guaranteed to be extended, renewed or repeated at a later date. While both the Insurer and the Provider agree on an Allowable Charge for the service, this does NOT mean that the Insurer will be paying for 100% of the charges. The client will still be responsible for any in network deductible, co-insurance or co-pay that they have. If the client has met their In-Network OOP, ONLY THEN will the Insurer reimburse for 100% of the charges. An SCA must be obtained for each individual service that will be provided, according to the designated CPT billing code assigned to that service. If an **SCA** has not been obtained for a particular service code, the Insurer does NOT agree to allow the client to use their in network benefits for that service. Generally, insurance providers will only allow SCAs for IOP or PHP programs as there are often in-network providers of outpatient services.

Example: If Prosperity obtains an SCA for IOP (Intensive Outpatient Program) the Insurer will only agree to allow the client to use In- Network benefits towards that service. Services that are not included in the IOP service code (such as Psychiatry) will NOT be considered at the In- Network rate. The client must pay for the services themselves and submit the claim to their Insurer to be put towards their Out of Network benefits. Any reimbursement for out of network services is generally paid directly to the client.

High-Tier or "Out for In"- This is similar to an SCA, with one important difference. The Insurer agrees to allow the client to use their In-network benefits at an Out of Network provider. HOWEVER, the Provider has <u>not</u> signed an agreement to accept the allowable charge, and the Insurer has <u>not</u> agreed to accept the provider's actual charge, or been willing to negotiate a rate. Therefore the client may still be balance billed for the difference between the allowable and actual charge. Example: Prosperity charges \$495 for IOP. The Insurer has designated \$350 as the allowable charge. The client has a \$25 co-pay for IOP. The Insurer is only going to reimburse for the difference between the allowable charge (\$350) and the co-pay (\$25) The Insurer is only going to pay \$325 for IOP. The client will be responsible for their \$25 co-pay PLUS the remaining balance of \$145 for a total of \$170.