

MHNet Provider Search— Explanation of Terms

To search for a provider, you must enter either your zip code or your city and state. Please do not enter both your zip code and your city and state. The advanced search section, which can be used to refine your search, is optional.

PLEASE NOTE: SOME FIELDS WILL BE LISTED AS N/A FOR SOME PROVIDERS BECAUSE THE ITEM REFERENCED MAY NOT BE APPLICABLE TO THAT PROVIDER OR PROVIDER TYPE. FOR INSTANCE, INFORMATION ON BOARD CERTIFICATION IS ONLY AVAILABLE FOR MDS AS THEY ARE THE ONLY GROUP ELIGIBLE FOR BOARD CERTIFICATION.

Demographic Information

NAME

This is the provider's name as given by the provider. MHNet updates this list every day with changes we get from providers. MHNet works with providers in many ways to make sure this information is right. We reach out to providers monthly and update data when providers re-credential. If you find any wrong information about a provider, please call us toll-free at **1-855-995-4086**.

SPECIALTIES

This is an area of medicine or clinical expertise in which the physician or therapist has had focused training. This information is provided to MHNet during the credentialing/recredentialing process and updated every three years during recredentialing or more often as needed.

PROVIDER GROUP NAME (IF APPLICABLE)

These are medical groups with which this physician or therapist has a working relationship or association. This information is provided to MHNet during the credentialing process and updated every three years during recredentialing or more often as needed.

ADDRESS/OFFICE LOCATION

This is the provider's address/office location. This information is provided to MHNet during the credentialing process and updated every three years during recredentialing or more often as needed.

GENDER

This is the provider's gender. This information is provided to MHNet during the credentialing process and updated every three years during recredentialing or more often as needed.

LICENSE

It can be confusing trying to sort out all the initials after some professional's name, to understand what they all mean, and to know which type of provider to go to. All providers within MHNet's network are licensed by their state to provide services and have been credentialed, which means MHNet has verified their license, education and history.

To explain the different provider types briefly:

- Psychiatrists are trained Medical Doctors (MD) or Doctors of Osteopathy (DO) who are uniquely qualified to assess both the mental and physical aspects of emotional distress and mental illness. Their education has given them a full working knowledge of the many causes for patients' feelings and symptoms. They know which tests or evaluations are needed to make a complete, accurate diagnosis. Psychiatrists can recommend or prescribe treatment. They have a broad knowledge of medications, which are used to treat emotional distress and mental illness. Although trained in psychotherapy, many psychiatrists limit their practice to prescribing and monitoring medications. After the initial evaluation, medication management visits are typically 15 minutes.
- Physician Assistants (PA) are nationally certified and state-licensed medical professionals. PAs practice medicine on healthcare teams with physicians and other providers. PAs can take your medical history, conduct physical exams, diagnose and treat illnesses, order and interpret tests, develop treatment plans, counsel on preventive care, and write prescriptions.
- Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners (ARNP) provide services similar to those of a physician. They examine patients, take medical histories, maintain patient records, identify health risk factors, prescribe medications, make referrals and otherwise treat health

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conditions. Their background in nursing gives them a unique approach to medical care. In general, advanced registered nurse practitioners focus more on patient wellness and disease prevention than do some physicians. They may provide health education services or counsel patients on how to make healthy lifestyle choices.

- Psychologists (PhD or PsyD) are trained at the doctoral level of education (but have not gone to medical school.) They are specialists in psychological testing or assessment and are also trained in psychotherapy and research of treatment effectiveness.
- Psychotherapists (LMHC, LMSW, LPC, LCSW, LMFT) are trained at a Master's degree level in a variety of different fields (such as psychology, social work or education). They are qualified individuals who have been trained to help people deal more effectively with the problems/stress they are experiencing.

Therapists work to alleviate and prevent emotional problems and mental illness. Therapy usually deals with more serious or long-term problems through somewhat extended one-on-one work. Problem areas might include:

- emotional difficulties such as anxiety or depression;
 - problematic behaviors such as addictions, phobias or compulsions;
 - relationship problems with family, spouse, children, etc.
- ABA (Applied Behavioral Analysts) are independent practitioners who also may work as employees or independent contractors for an organization. The ABA does thorough behavioral assessments, including looking for cause and effect relationships in behavior, then designs and supervises behavioral interventions based on the results. Examples of these interventions include:
 - building the skills and achievements of children in school settings and
 - enhancing the development, abilities, and choices of children and adults with different kinds of disabilities.

Any of these individuals (psychiatrists, psychologists or psychotherapists) can do an excellent job in working with individuals to help them resolve their psychological issues.

Many of these professionals may also have an area of specialty, such as Depression, Eating Disorders or Adolescent Issues.

Feel free to contact MHNet and ask questions. We will be happy to help determine the type of professional best suited for your situation. This information is provided to MHNet and verified by MHNet during the credentialing process and updated every three years during recredentialing or more often as needed.

EDUCATION

All mental health and substance abuse providers must have the minimum education required by their independent licensure (which at minimum is a post-secondary degree). Educational information details the school from which the provider graduated and the year in which her or she graduated. This information is provided to MHNet during the credentialing process and updated every three years during recredentialing or more often as needed.

LANGUAGE

This refers to the languages in which the provider is fluent and can communicate to those needing clinical care. This information is voluntarily provided to MHNet during the credentialing process and updated every three years during recredentialing or more often as needed.

HOSPITAL AFFILIATION

Providers with hospital affiliation are able to admit, attend and/or consult at the specified hospital(s). The hospital has provided permission to utilize the facility to care for his/her patients. This information is provided to MHNet and verified by MHNet during the credentialing process and updated every three years during recredentialing or more often as needed. New affiliations or changes are sent to MHNet by the provider.

BOARD CERTIFICATION

This medical specialty certification indicates that the physician has received recognition for his/her expertise in a specific specialty or medical practice. MHNet provides information on board certifications in the fields of psychiatry and neurology. Board certification is voluntary

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and is achieved through a process of testing and peer assessment. This information is provided to MHNet and verified by MHNet during the credentialing process and updated every three years during recredentialing or more often as needed. This information can also currently be viewed at www.boardcertifieddocs.com.*

**Board Certified Docs has been designated by the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) as an Official Display Agent and provides this primary source data on the organization's behalf. The ABMS has been designated a primary source of board certification information by the Joint Commission (TJC – formerly JCAHO), the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) and URAC. (The ABMS website information is updated monthly).*

ACCREDITATION

This is a process conducted by an independent organization that provides medical facilities with an objective review of their services. The result is a set of practical standards that promotes quality services and ensures optimum care for the patient. Accreditation organizations are generally recognized nationally by the federal government and state governments.

The following are some accreditation organizations:

- Healthcare Facilities Accreditation Program (HFAP);
- Healthcare Quality Association on Accreditation (HQAA);
- The Joint Commission (TJC- formerly JCAHO); and
- the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA).

ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS

This means that the provider is able to receive new patients into his/her practice. This information is given to MHNet by the provider and is applicable for a set period of time as defined by the provider.

MHNet's Credentialing Program

All provider-specific information included in the provider search database has been provided to MHNet during the credentialing/recredentialing process.

Through the credentialing process, our highly trained staff reviews and evaluates the qualifications of physicians and other behavioral health care specialists. Before a provider is approved to participate in the network they must meet defined requirements for education, licensure, and professional standing. The provider must also offer services that are available to meet the needs of members and have office hours available to handle both routine appointments and emergency situations.

As part of our "rec credentialing" process, our staff reviews this information at least every three years for all of our participating providers. We obtain routine updates regarding their licensure and professional standing. We also review their performance through quality monitoring including member complaints and adverse events.

Behavioral health facilities are also reviewed through this credentialing and rec credentialing process.

If you have any questions about your participating provider or behavioral health facility, please feel free to contact MHNet.