

**135H.3 Nature of care.**

1. A psychiatric medical institution for children shall utilize a team of professionals to direct an organized program of diagnostic services, psychiatric services, nursing care, and rehabilitative services to meet the needs of residents in accordance with a medical care plan developed for each resident. The membership of the team of professionals may include but is not limited to an advanced registered nurse practitioner or a physician assistant. Social and rehabilitative services shall be provided under the direction of a qualified mental health professional.

2. If a child is diagnosed with a biologically based mental illness as defined in [section 514C.22](#) and meets the medical assistance program criteria for admission to a psychiatric medical institution for children, the child shall be deemed to meet the acuity criteria for medically necessary inpatient benefits under a group policy, contract, or plan providing for third-party payment or prepayment of health, medical, and surgical coverage benefits issued by a carrier, as defined in [section 513B.2](#), that is subject to [section 514C.22](#). Such medically necessary benefits shall not be excluded or denied as care that is substantially custodial in nature under [section 514C.22, subsection 8](#), paragraph “b”.

[89 Acts, ch 283, §4](#); [2009 Acts, ch 179, §182](#); [2011 Acts, ch 121, §7](#); [2011 Acts, ch 131, §151, 153](#); [2017 Acts, ch 148, §29](#)