

**MEDICAL NECESSITY CRITERIA
FOR
MEDICAID MENTAL HEALTH, DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES,
AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SUPPORTS AND SERVICES**

- 1.0 Medical Necessity Criteria
 - 1.1 “Medically necessary” mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse services are supports, services, and treatment:
 - 1.1.1 Necessary for screening and assessing the presence of a mental illness, developmental disability or substance use disorder; and/or
 - 1.1.2 Required to identify and evaluate a mental illness, developmental disability or substance use disorder; and/or
 - 1.1.3 Intended to treat, ameliorate, diminish or stabilize the symptoms of mental illness, developmental disability or substance use disorder; and/or
 - 1.1.4 Expected to arrest or delay the progression of a mental illness, developmental disability, or substance use disorder; and/or
 - 1.1.5 Designed to assist the individual to attain or maintain a sufficient level of functioning in order to achieve his/her goals of community inclusion and participation, independence, recovery, or productivity.
 - 1.2 The determination of a medically necessary support, service or treatment must be:
 - 1.2.1 Based on information provided by the individual, individual’s family, and/or other individuals (e.g., friends, personal assistants/aide) who know the individual; and
 - 1.2.2 Based on clinical information from individual’s primary care physician or health care professionals with relevant qualifications who have evaluated the individual; and
 - 1.2.3 For beneficiaries with mental illness or developmental disabilities, based on person-centered planning, and for beneficiaries with substance use disorders, individualized treatment planning; and
 - 1.2.4 Made by appropriately trained mental health, developmental disabilities, or substance abuse professionals with sufficient clinical experience; and
 - 1.2.5 Made within federal and state standards for timeliness; and
 - 1.2.6 Sufficient in amount, scope and duration of the service(s) to reasonably achieve its/their purpose.
 - 1.3 Supports, services and treatment authorized by the PIHP must be:

SUBMITTED TO CMS FOR APPROVAL 5-7-04

- 1.3.1 Delivered in accordance with federal and state standards for timeliness in a location that is accessible to the beneficiary; and
 - 1.3.2 Responsive to particular needs of multi-cultural populations and furnished in a culturally relevant manner; and
 - 1.3.3 Responsive to the particular needs of beneficiaries with sensory or mobility impairments and that they are provided with the necessary accommodations; and
 - 1.3.4 Provided in the least restrictive, most integrated setting. Inpatient, licensed residential or other segregated settings shall be used only when less restrictive levels of treatment, service or support have been, for that beneficiary, unsuccessful or cannot be safely provided; and
 - 1.3.5 Delivered consistent with, where they exist, available research findings, health care practice guidelines, best practices and standards of practice issued by professionally recognized organizations or government agencies.
- 1.4 Using criteria for medical necessity, a PIHP may:
- 1.4.1 Deny services a) that are deemed ineffective for a given condition based upon professionally and scientifically recognized and accepted standards of care; b) that are experimental or investigational in nature; or c) for which there exists another appropriate, efficacious, less-restrictive and cost-effective service, setting or support, that otherwise satisfies the standards for medically-necessary services; and/or
 - 1.4.2 Employ various methods to determine amount, scope and duration of services, including prior authorization for certain services, concurrent utilization reviews, centralized assessment and referral, gate-keeping arrangements, protocols, and guidelines.
- 1.5 A PIHP may not deny services solely based on preset limits of the cost, amount, scope, and duration of services; but instead determination of the need for services shall be conducted on an individualized basis.

Filename: MEDICAL NECESSITY CRITERIA 4-28-04final
Directory: G:\COMMON\May17waivertraining
Template: C:\WINDOWS\Application
Data\Microsoft\Templates\Normal.dot
Title: MEDICAL NECESSITY CRITERIA
Subject:
Author: Windows User
Keywords:
Comments:
Creation Date: 5/12/04 3:25 PM
Change Number: 2
Last Saved On: 5/12/04 3:25 PM
Last Saved By: Windows User
Total Editing Time: 1 Minute
Last Printed On: 5/14/04 6:24 PM
As of Last Complete Printing
Number of Pages: 2
Number of Words: 554 (approx.)
Number of Characters: 3,159 (approx.)