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MCG message

To: All Blue Cross Complete providers

Date: March 11, 2024

Subject: Medicaid Health Plans provide coverage for inpatient stays in non-psychiatric hospitals

Effective with admissions on or after Oct. 1, 2023, Medicaid Health Plans will provide coverage for inpatient stays in non-psychiatric hospitals where the member has a primary or admitting behavioral health diagnosis and is waiting placement for a psychiatric bed.

This update is due to recent contract changes with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. Prior authorization requirements include:

- Prior to requesting health plan authorization for these services, the hospital must obtain Community Mental Health/Pre-Paid Inpatient Health Plan authorization for the psychiatric inpatient stay when both the admitting and primary diagnosis are a behavioral diagnosis.
- When submitting the PA request to Blue Cross Complete for inpatient stays requiring CMH/PIHP authorization, documentation of the CMH/PIHP authorization for the psychiatric inpatient stay must be submitted with the request.
- Authorization requests which require prior approval by the CMH/PIHP that do not have this documentation will not be approved. Providers may appeal the denial through the appeal process. The provider must include the CMH/PIHP authorization with the appeal request.

Use the table below to review common issues and solutions for MHPs coverage for inpatient stays in non-psychiatric hospitals.



	Issue	Solution	Admitting Diagnosis	Primary Diagnosis
1	Member presents needing medical stabilization. Is stabilized, admitted, and waiting on psych bed.	MHP pays inpatient stay when an authorization is obtained from the Medicaid Health Plan.	Medical	Psych
2	Member presents with psych need but placed in inpatient bed (may or may not have IP psych placement options) – unable to stay in the Emergency Department.	CMH/PIHP is contacted for PAR and must approve if member meets IP level of care regardless of hospital bed type. MHP pays inpatient stay when an authorization is obtained from the Medicaid Health Plan.	Psych	Psych
3	Member presents with psych need but stays in ED while waiting on psych bed transfer.	CMH/PIHP is contacted for PAR and must approve if member meets IP level of care regardless of hospital bed type. MHP pays ED stay.	Psych	Psych

Thank you for your continued commitment to the care of our members. If you have questions, please contact your Blue Cross Complete provider account executive or Provider Inquiry at **1-888-312-5713**.