

Changes to medical necessity criteria

Summary: Effective November 5, 2018, Amerigroup District of Columbia, Inc. will transition from using InterQual® Level of Care Criteria to MCG Care Guidelines to review prior authorization requests for planned inpatient admissions and acute inpatient pediatric and adult care for both medical and behavioral health services. Acute inpatient neonatal care will be reviewed using Clinical Utilization Management (UM) Guideline *Neonatal Levels of Care, CG-MED-26*. In addition, Amerigroup will transition from using the InterQual Home Care Criteria to using the Clinical UM Guideline *Home Health, CG-MED-23*. All acute rehabilitation inpatient care and skilled nursing inpatient care will continue to be reviewed for medical necessity using InterQual Level of Care Criteria.

What this means to me

Existing precertification requirements for planned inpatient admissions, home health and acute inpatient notification requirements have not changed. Please share this notice with other members of your practice and office staff.

What is the impact of this change?

Effective November 5, 2018, Amerigroup will review for medical necessity using criteria as outlined below:

Criteria	Behavioral health services
MCG Care Guidelines	Planned and acute inpatient behavioral health care
Amerigroup <i>Medical Policy</i> and <i>Clinical UM Guidelines</i>	Outpatient behavioral health care
Criteria	Medical health services
Amerigroup <i>Medical Policy</i> and <i>Clinical UM Guidelines</i>	Outpatient services, home health services, pharmaceuticals and acute NICU inpatient acute care
MCG Care Guidelines	Planned adult and pediatric acute inpatient care
InterQual Level of Care Criteria	Acute inpatient rehabilitation, inpatient skilled nursing
<i>AIM Clinical Appropriateness Guidelines</i> <i>AIM Diagnostic Clinical Appropriateness Guidelines</i> <i>AIM Diagnostic Musculoskeletal Guidelines</i>	High-tech radiology, sleep disorder management, genetic testing, radiation oncology, pain management and muscular skeletal surgery

What if I need assistance?

If you have questions about this communication or need assistance with any other item, contact your local Provider Relations representative or call our Provider Services team at 1-800-454-3730.