

Medical Necessity Criteria Change for Acute Treatment

Summary of change: Effective July 1, 2017, the Department of Community Health (DCH) medical necessity criteria guidelines will upgrade to 2017 InterQual Level of Care Criteria. Amerigroup Community Care will begin utilizing 2017 InterQual Criteria for all acute inpatient admissions beginning 7/1/2017.

What this means to you:

Documentation submitted by Behavioral Health providers for acute treatment must conform to the 2017 InterQual Criteria:

- Documentation must demonstrate that medical necessity criteria are met for approval of the provider's request for prior authorization or precertification
- Providers should upgrade clinical references to include the 2017 InterQual Level of Care Criteria and Acute Adult and Pediatric references in preparation for services delivered on or after

Why is this change necessary?

InterQual is an internationally recognized and evidence-based clinical content that provides appropriateness of care decision support across all levels of care. InterQual helps to assess the appropriateness of patient services across the continuum of care.

What is the impact of the change?

The 2017 InterQual Criteria will apply to precertification or prior approval reviews of hospital and outpatient care, imaging studies, invasive procedures and Durable Medical Equipment.

What if I need help?

If you have questions about this communication, received this fax in error or need help with any else, contact your local Provider Relations representative or call our Provider Services team at 1-800-454-3730.