Substance Use Disorder Partial Hospital Program Services

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Policy Number: WI.PA-9003
Line of Business: Medicare

Medical Coverage Policy

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Related Medical/Pharmacy Coverage Policies
If no applicable Medicare coverage documents are found, please use the coverage guidelines below.

Related Documents
Please refer to CMS website for the most current applicable National Coverage Determination (NCD)/Local Coverage Determination (LCD)/Local Coverage Article (LCA)/CMS Online Manual System/Transmittals.

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Substance Use Disorder Partial Hospital Program Services

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<th>NCD</th>
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**Description**

Partial Hospitalization Programs (PHP) provide intensive and structured care for members who do not require 24-hour supervision, but who need daily (or near daily) monitoring or management of their substance-related disorders. Members in PHP require a minimum of 20 hours per week of therapeutic services. PHP provides a comprehensive, multidimensional array of professional clinical services that include psychiatric care, individual, group and family counseling, member training and education.  

**Coverage Determination**

iCare follows the CMS requirement that only allows coverage and payment for services that are reasonable and necessary for the diagnosis or treatment of illness or injury or to improve the functioning of a malformed body member except as specifically allowed by Medicare.

iCare members may be eligible under the Plan for Substance Use Disorder Partial Hospital Program (PHP) Services when:

- Services are reasonably expected to improve or maintain the individual's condition and functional level and to prevent relapse or hospitalization;
- There is a need for active treatment of the condition to maintain a functional level and prevent relapse or hospitalization; and
- The member is able to cognitively and emotionally participate in the active treatment process and be capable of tolerating the intensity of a PHP program.

For the services to be designated as active treatment, they must incorporate an individualized treatment plan which describes a coordination of services wrapped around the particular needs of the member and include a multidisciplinary team approach to member care under the direction of a physician.  

*In interpreting or supplementing the criteria above and in order to determine medical necessity consistently, iCare may consider The ASAM Criteria.*  

The use of the criteria in this Medicare Advantage Medical Coverage Policy provides clinical benefits highly likely to outweigh any clinical harms. Services that do not meet the criteria above are not medically necessary and thus do not provide a clinical benefit. Medically unnecessary services carry risks of adverse outcomes and may interfere with the pursuit of other treatments which have demonstrated efficacy.

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**Coverage Limitations**

iCare members may not be eligible under the Plan for Substance Abuse Disorder Partial Hospital Program (PHP) Services for programs that are considered primarily diversionary activities, social or recreational therapies, or vocational rehabilitation.  

Refer to:  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). Medicare National Coverage Determinations Manual, Chapter 1, Part 2, Section 130 – Mental Health

**Coding Information**

Any codes listed on this policy are for informational purposes only. Do not rely on the accuracy and inclusion of specific codes. Inclusion of a code does not guarantee coverage and/or reimbursement for a service or procedure.

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**References**

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Change Summary

- 01/01/2024 New Policy.
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