
PROVIDER ALERT

Alert#: **PA 2022-01**

Issued: **February 9, 2022**

To: **Inpatient General Acute Care Hospitals and Freestanding Psychiatric Hospitals**

Subject: **COVID Surge Response – Temporary Change in Authorization Parameters for Inpatient Psychiatric Level of Care.**

Dear Provider,

As an interim measure in response to the recent surge in COVID cases, the CT BHP will be temporarily modifying the authorization parameters for inpatient psychiatric level of care for both adults and youth. In an effort to provide administrative relief to inpatient providers who are impacted by this surge, the inpatient psychiatric authorization parameters will be modified as follows:

Effective February 8, 2022:

Adult Inpatient Psychiatric Services at General Acute Care Hospitals and Freestanding Psychiatric Facilities (for members 21 years old and under or 65 years old and over):

Adult inpatient hospital providers and freestanding psychiatric facilities will receive 10 days auto-approved for inpatient psychiatric level of care upon submission of web pended pre-cert review in CT BHP Provider Connect portal.

Youth Inpatient Psychiatric Services at General Acute Care Hospitals and Freestanding Psychiatric Facilities:

Youth inpatient hospital providers and freestanding psychiatric facilities will receive no fewer than 13 days auto-approved for inpatient psychiatric level of care upon submission of web pended pre-cert review in CT BHP Provider Connect portal. For providers already receiving 13 or more days based on previous bypass performance, no changes will be made to days auto-approved.

This interim modification will be effective starting February 8, 2022 and remain in effect until which time the bypass is reinstated. We hope these changes will decrease some of the administrative burden for providers. Requests will continue to be monitored for medical necessity.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the CT BHP Provider Relations Department at 1-877-552-8247, Options 1, 2, 7.

Sincerely,

Provider Relations Department
CT Behavioral Health Partnership