



May 1, 2020

Institute for Mental Disease (IMD)

Dear Valued Provider:

You are receiving this letter as a friendly reminder that Cigna will follow the guidelines provided by HHSC for reviewing voluntary and involuntary behavioral health admissions to IMD facilities.

Cigna is permitted to perform UM reviews and make a determination of medical necessity (MN) at admission and for any resulting continued stay for court ordered inpatient psychiatric services delivered at an IMD for Members age 21 years through age 64 years, regardless of the existence of a court order. [UMCC Section 8.1.15.7.1; refer to HHSC 9-17-19 Webinar - Inpatient Mental Health Services for Adults and Children.

Cigna may cover court-ordered services in an IMD in lieu of an acute care inpatient hospital setting in instances when Cigna determines that the services and the setting are both medically necessary (MN). However, as more fully described in HHSC's UMCM Chapter 16.1.15.3, Cigna is not required to pay for the court-ordered IMD costs beginning on the 16th day of the Member's stay in any given month for Members ages 21-64. By contrast, court-ordered inpatient services provided in an IMD to Members under age 21 or ages 65 and older are a covered Medicaid benefit and, therefore, Cigna will not limit payment for services based solely on the fact that the length of stay for services exceeds 15 days in any given calendar month.

For questions, please contact our Provider Services Department Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Central Standard Time at 1-877-653-0331.