



Connecticut Medical Assistance Program
Policy Transmittal 2021-15

Provider Bulletin 2021-26
 April 2021

Deidre S. Gifford, MD, MPH, Commissioner

Effective Date: May 21, 2021
 Contact: See Below

TO: All Providers

RE: Reinstating Prior Authorization Requirements that were Suspended During the Public Health Emergency

Effective for dates of service May 21, 2021 and forward, all prior authorization (PA) requirements that were suspended or modified as part of the Public Health Emergency (PHE) response to COVID-19 as outlined in **PB 2020-33 - CMAP COVID-19 Response – Bulletin 23: Changes to the Prior Authorization Requirements for Specified Services** will be reinstated. The PA requirements will be reinstated due to the current state PHE declaration and the relevant associated executive order (EO) 7EE, Section 4, expiring May 20, 2021.

PRIOR AUTHORIZATION:

PA will be reinstated on the following services (in accordance with standard rules and procedures in effect before the PHE):

Inpatient Hospital Admissions:

Prior authorization requirements for all in-state and border hospital admissions will be reinstated, including all inpatient general acute care hospitals, children’s hospitals, chronic disease hospitals and freestanding psychiatric hospitals. (PA has remained in effect for out-of-state hospital admissions, which is not changing.)

Inpatient Hospice Services:

General inpatient hospice days beyond the fifth day will require PA, as required by section 17b-262-843(a)(1) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.

Outpatient Behavioral Health Services:

Standard PA and registration requirements, as applicable, will be reinstated for the following outpatient behavioral health services:

Behavioral Health Service	Procedure Code(s)
Psychiatric Diagnostic Evaluation	90791-90792, 90785
Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP) - MH	S9480
Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP) - SA	H0015
Partial Hospitalization Program (PHP)	H0035
Extended Day Treatment (EDT)	H2012
Other Behavioral Health Services (Targeted Case Management and Home-Based Services)	H2019 and T1017
Psychological & Neurological Testing	96116, 96121, 96130-96133, 96136-96137 – Psychological Testing 96136 TF and 96137 TF – Neuropsychological Testing Only
Methadone Maintenance	H0020
Case Management	T1016
Adult Day Treatment	H2013
MRO Group Homes	2074Y

Eligible Providers:

The following providers must obtain PAs and registrations for the above services:

- Physicians
- Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN)
- Physician Assistants
- Outpatient Hospitals
- Outpatient Chronic Disease Hospitals (CDH)
- Freestanding Psychiatric Hospitals
- Opioid Treatment Programs (Methadone Maintenance Clinics)
- Freestanding Behavioral Health Clinics
- Federally Qualified Health Centers
- Independent Behavioral Health Clinicians (Licensed Clinical Social Workers (LCSWs), Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselors (LADCs), Licensed Marital and Family Therapists (LMFTs), Licensed Professional Counselors (LPC), and Licensed Psychologists)

Please Note: Behavioral health services rendered by a physician assistant must be billed under the physician/physician group provider ID. The physician assistant must be listed as the rendering provider on claims.

Advanced Radiology and Imaging Services:

The global and technical components for non-emergent outpatient advanced imaging procedures will be reinstated effective for dates of service May 21, 2021 and forward. Please refer to applicable fee schedules for services that require PA.

Home Health Services:

The following temporary PA changes that were made because of the PHE declaration are expiring as of May 20, 2021 and standard rules are being reinstated for dates of service May 21, 2021 and forward:

- CMAP's medical administrative services organization (ASO) (Community Health Network of CT) and behavioral health ASO (Beacon Health Options) **will not grant any additional automatic home health extensions for prior authorizations for dates of service beyond May 31, 2021. Home health agencies must request re-authorizations for dates of service on and after June 1, 2021 in accordance with all standard procedures and requirements.**
- PA thresholds that were temporarily increased during the PHE declaration will return to threshold standards, as required by section 17b-262-732 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.
 - Nursing Services – PA will be required for skilled nursing in excess of the initial evaluation and **two (2)** visits per week
 - Pregnancy-related preventive prenatal nursing care services in excess of **two (2)** visits during the prenatal period
 - Pregnancy-related preventive postpartum nursing care services in excess of **two (2)** visits during the postpartum period
 - Physical therapy services in excess of the initial evaluation and **two (2) visits** per week
 - Speech therapy services in excess of the initial evaluation and **two (2) visits** per week
 - Occupational therapy in excess of the initial evaluation and **one (1)** visit per week.

Dental Services:

Effective for dates of service May 21, 2021 and forward, PA is reinstated for the following dental procedures:

- D3310 Endodontic therapy, anterior tooth (excluding final restoration)

- D3320 Endodontic therapy, bicuspid tooth (excluding final restoration)
- D3330 Endodontic therapy, molar (excluding final restoration)

Medical Equipment, Devices and Supplies:

For information related to temporary changes for specific Medical Equipment, Devices and Supplies, please refer to *PB 2021-19 - Reinstating Standard Requirements - Medical Equipment, Devices and Supplies (MEDS) Signed Delivery Receipts Requirement and Prior Authorization Extensions.*

Requesting PAs from Appropriate Administrative Service Organization:

Providers must submit PA requests to the appropriate ASO for dates of service May 21, 2021 and forward:

Medical Authorizations

Community Health Network of CT (CHNCT) at 1-800-440-5071, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Behavioral Health Authorizations

Beacon Health Options at 1-877-552-8247

Dental Authorizations

BeneCare Provider Relations at 1-888-445-6665

Non-Emergency Medical Transportation Authorizations

Veyo at 1-855-478-7350

For questions about billing or if further assistance is needed to access the fee schedules on the Connecticut Medical Assistance Program (CMAP) Web site, please contact the Provider Assistance Center, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at 1-800-842-8440.

Posting Instructions:

Policy transmittals can be downloaded from the Web site at www.ctdssmap.com.

Distribution:

This policy transmittal is being distributed to providers of the Connecticut Medical Assistance Program by Gainwell Technologies.

Responsible Unit:

DSS, Division of Health Services:

For Professional Services and Home Health, please contact Dana Robinson-Rush, Health Program Assistant @ dana.robinson-rush@ct.gov.

For Behavioral Health Services, please contact Roderick Winstead, Manager, Integrated Services @ roderick.winstead@ct.gov.

For Inpatient or Outpatient Hospital, please contact Colleen Johnson, Health Program Assistant @ colleen.johnson@ct.gov.

For Dental Services, please contact Hope Mitchell-Williams, Health Program Associate @ hope.mitchell-williams@ct.gov.

For MEDS, please contact Ginny Mahoney, Health Program Associate @ ginny.mahoney@ct.gov.

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