

6.4. Mental Health – Emergency Department Services in a Licensed Hospital Emergency Department

DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES

This service allows for assessment and intervention for a participant who is in an emergency department (ED) and appears to be exhibiting acute behavioral issues. Due to a behavioral health disorder, the participant may present as dangerous to him or herself or others, may be unable to care for him/herself, or may be in an acute withdrawal syndrome. The participant may arrive in the ED on a voluntary basis or through an emergency petition.

The participant is expected to have his or her behavioral symptoms addressed during an ED visit and receive a behavioral health diagnosis as a result of the assessment.

PARTICIPANT ELIGIBILITY

The ED service provider is expected to collect history, exchange information, and coordinate care with the participant's PCP and other treatment providers (e.g. substance use disorder treatment, mental health treatment, and other health providers) when clinically appropriate. If the participant in emergency circumstances is thought or known to be eligible for Maryland Developmental Disability Administration (DDA) services, the appropriate regional office of DDA should be contacted to arrange rapid evaluation (where available) and to delineate service options. This is a service reimbursable only for participants with Medicaid.

PROVIDER ELIGIBILITY

EDs regulated by the state of Maryland are eligible providers. Out-of-state EDs must be active Maryland Medicaid providers and have a signed provider agreement with Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) in order to provide this service.

AUTHORIZATION PROCESS

The rendering of ED services does not require pre-authorization by Beacon Health Options, Inc. (Beacon).

SERVICE RULES

The Maryland Public Behavioral Health System (PBHS) does not cover services for participants presenting at an ED whose primary diagnosis is not a PBHS-covered diagnosis. A list of substance use disorder diagnoses is available at: http://maryland.valueoptions.com/provider/clin_ut/PBHS-Diagnoses.pdf.

For licensed mental health professionals other than psychiatrists or nurse practitioners to be reimbursed in this venue, the requirements in Appendix A of this Provider Manual must be met.

CLAIMS PROCESS

Claims are required to be submitted on a CMS 1500 form or on a UB-04 form with the appropriate billing codes. Claims must specify an ICD-10 code (not DSM 5 code) for reimbursement. Once the service has been delivered, claims should be sent to Beacon.

Reimbursement for ED services pertaining to medical diagnoses for participants enrolled in HealthChoice is the responsibility of the Managed Care Organization (MCO) in which the participant is enrolled.

BILLING CODES

Licensed providers requesting reimbursement from PBHS will also need their own active Maryland Medicaid individual or group number. The provider, NOT the hospital, will be paid for services rendered.

Please see the Beacon Service Class Grid for the full list of covered CPT and revenue codes at: http://maryland.valueoptions.com/provider/clin_ut/ValueOptions-Maryland-Service-Grid.pdf.