

## 6.30. Early Intervention (ASAM Level 0.5)

### DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES

Beacon utilizes ASAM criteria to determine medical necessity for all substance use disorder (SUD) related service requests. The description of services provided by Early Intervention (ASAM Level 0.5) and its applicable criteria can be accessed here:

<http://maryland.valueoptions.com/provider/manual/AppendixC-ASAM-Criteria.pdf>.

### SERVICE RULES

Data submission through the Beacon ProviderConnect system is required.

### PARTICIPANT ELIGIBILITY

The participants eligible for Early Intervention services are those who do not have a substance use related disorder documented, but who are, for a known reason, at-risk for developing a substance use related disorder.

Early Intervention (Level 0.5) is only reimbursable through the state of Maryland's Grant Funds which, are administered by the Local Addictions Authorities (LAAs). Early Intervention services are not reimbursable through federally or state funded Medicaid or Dual Eligibility (Medicaid and Medicare).

### PROVIDER ELIGIBILITY

Eligible providers are providers who have been approved by Medicaid to provide the service. In addition to this, they must be registered with Beacon. Once registered, Beacon will give the provider/program provider and vendor numbers. These will allow the provider to submit federally mandated reporting data to Beacon through ProviderConnect.

Conditions for program participation include:

- A community-based SUD program shall meet and comply with all requirements set forth in COMAR 10.09.36
- A community-based substance use program shall:
  - Receive certification by the Office of Health Care Quality in accordance with COMAR 10.47.01
  - Meet the requirements established by the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Administration as described in COMAR 10.47.01

## **AUTHORIZATION PROCESS**

Authorizations for this service are requested electronically through Beacon. Electronic authorizations are completed by the provider through submission of a request in Provider Connect. Provider Connect can be accessed 24/7, including weekends and holidays through the Beacon website:

<http://maryland.beaconhealthoptions.com/provider-main.html>. If the level of care is medically necessary, services will be authorized.

If a Beacon Care Manager is not able to authorize the service as medically necessary, the request for services will be referred to a Beacon Physician Advisor for review. If the services requested do not meet medical necessity criteria and are non-authorized, the determination of the non-authorized case will be communicated both via ProviderConnect and telephonically to the provider (refer to Chapter 10 on Grievances and Appeals for further information).

Providers are expected to initiate discharge planning at the beginning of service delivery. Providers are also required to submit the discharge plan in the authorization request.

## **CLAIMS PROCESS**

Providers should seek the direction and assistance of their LAAs who may be able to pay for services, depending on the availability of funds.