

## 7.8. Psychiatric Partial Hospitalization Services – Adult/Child and Adolescent

### PSYCHIATRIC PARTIAL HOSPITALIZATION SERVICES (ADULT/CHILD AND ADOLESCENT)

#### Principles for Medical Necessity Criteria

Partial hospitalization programs (PHPs) provide the nature and intensity of services that would be provided in a hospital (including medical and nursing supervision and interventions) for at least four hours/days, but the participant is not involved in a 24-hour/day program including a stay overnight.

When participants have a mental disorder that require professional evaluation and treatment, they should be treated at the least intensive setting able to meet their medical needs.

Satisfaction of all admission and continued care criteria must be documented in the clinical record based upon the conditions and factors identified below before treatment will be authorized.

#### CRITERIA

<p><b>Admission Criteria</b></p>	<p>All of the following criteria are necessary for admission:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. The participant has a PBHS specialty mental health DSM 5 diagnosis, and the participant’s condition can be expected to be stabilized at this level of care.</li> <li>B. There is clinical evidence that the participant would be at-risk to him or herself or others if the participant was not in a partial hospitalization program.</li> <li>C. There is clinical evidence that the participant will be safe in a structured environment under clinical supervision for part of the day, and has a suitable environment for the rest of the time, and that a partial hospitalization program can safely substitute for or shorten a hospital stay to prevent deterioration that would lead to a re-hospitalization.</li> <li>D. All less intensive levels of treatment have been determined to be unsafe or unsuccessful.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Severity of Need and Intensity of Service</b></p>	<p>Medical necessity for admission to a PHP must be documented by the presence of all of the criteria. The length of the program varies based on the participant’s needs and medical necessity.</p> <p>Evidence of a stable and safe living environment and participant safety during non-treatment hours is imperative to meet criteria and distinguish it from inpatient services. Active involvement of the participant, family, caretakers, or significant others involved in the participant’s treatment should be sought.</p>

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**Criteria for Continued Stay**

All of the following criteria are necessary for continuing treatment at this level of care:

- A. The participant continues to meet admission criteria. Progress in relation to specific symptoms/impairments/dysfunction is clearly evident and can be described in objective terms, but goals of treatment have not been achieved or adjustments in the treatment plan to address the lack of progress are evident and/or a second opinion on the treatment plan has been considered. (There should be daily progress notes that document treatment and the participant's response to treatment.)
  - B. Clinical attempts at therapeutic re-entry into a less restrictive level of care have, or would, result in exacerbation of the mental disorder to the degree that would warrant the continued need for partial hospitalization services.
  - C. There is evidence that the participant, family, caretaker or significant other is involved in treatment in the frequency and manner indicated by the treatment plan.
  - D. There is documented active planning for transition to a less intensive level of care
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