

7.23. Medical Necessity Criteria Appendices

APPENDIX A

The following sole diagnoses are not in the domain of the public behavioral health system. Individuals with co-occurring covered PBHS psychiatric diagnosis are eligible for psychiatric services in the PBHS for treatment of that co-occurring psychiatric illness:

- Mental retardation
- Learning disorders
- Motor skills disorder
- Communication disorders
- Pervasive development disorders
- Tic disorders
- Delirium, dementia, amnesia, and other cognitive disorders
- Mental disorders due to a general medical condition (personality changes due to a medical condition is an included PBHS diagnosis)
- Substance-related disorders
- Substance-induced disorders
- Sexual dysfunctions will not be covered except paraphilias and gender identity disorders
- Sleep disorders (except parasomnias)
- Antisocial personality disorder
- Psychological factors affecting medical condition
- Relational problems
- Other V codes

Note: PBHS will be available for consultation.

APPENDIX B - THERAPEUTIC LEAVE OF ABSENCE DOCUMENTATION

The criteria below for therapeutic leave of absence (TLOA) are a more detailed elaboration of the above definition for the purposes of establishing medical necessity for these health care services.

Definition

TLOA is any leave from a facility which is ordered by a physician, medically necessary, and not supervised by staff. A leave for medical reasons, e.g., consultations, evaluations, office visits, and treatments, is excluded from this definition.

Documentation Guidelines

To ensure that a TLOA is recognized as meeting the above definition, the medical record must contain the following information:

1. A physician must order each TLOA, identify it as a TLOA, and specify the number of leave hours approved.
2. Therapeutic rationale must be included in the ITP's, and/or physician progress notes, and/or social worker notes.
3. The nurse, physician, or social worker must document the outcome of the TLOA in the medical record.

Medical Necessity

While these guidelines address the documentation of TLOA, the medical necessity of each leave of absence continues to be determined by the application of the psychiatric hospitalization criteria.

TLOAs are not reimbursed by the PBHS.