

NETWORK Notification

Notice Date: April 18, 2025

To: Indiana Medicaid and Marketplace Providers

From: CareSource

Subject: Follow-up After Hospitalization for Mental Illness (FUH)

Background

Follow-up After Hospitalization for Mental Illness (FUH) assesses the percentage of inpatient discharges for a diagnosis of mental illness or intentional self-harm among patients ages six years of age and older that resulted in follow-up care with a health care provider within seven to 30-days.¹

Summary

Research has shown that timely follow-up care for behavioral health-related hospitalizations and emergency department visits are associated with fewer hospital readmissions, increased medication adherence, decreased suicidal ideation, and stabilization.^{2,3}

We want to ensure you are aware of some very important changes to the FUH Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS®) measure. For 2025, additional diagnoses were added to the qualifying event/diagnosis such as phobia, anxiety, and intentional self-harm. In addition, peer support and psychiatric residential treatment services were added to the qualifying follow-up visit types. The most notable change to the measure is the follow-up visit does not have to occur with a mental health provider. Health care providers are able to perform the follow-up visit as long as all billing requirements are met, which includes a mental health diagnosis being present on the claim in any position. Also, we encourage providers to include the member's inpatient discharge summary as part of the member's electronic medical record for visibility to the inpatient stay and to review discharge instructions.

Primary care providers are often the first healthcare professional a patient encounters after a hospital admission. We know you have long-term relationships with your patients, and some of them feel more comfortable talking to you since you are already treating them for other conditions. Even if you perform the follow-up visit after a hospital admission, it is still important to ensure your patients are connected to a long-term behavioral health provider. If you need assistance connecting your patients to a provider, please visit Find a Doctor at the <u>FAD website</u>.

Questions?

For any questions, please contact a member of the Behavioral Health Clinical Team at Indiana BH@CareSource.com.

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² https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31068399/

³ https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/25828981/

¹ NCQA