

HCPF IMD Forum

Monthly on the Last Thursday of each month – 2 PM

Forum Agenda 2/29/2024

- Introduction & Welcome.....5 Minutes
- 1115 SUD Waiver Amendment updates.....5 minutes
- State Hospital Admissions.....15 Minutes
- 27-65 Certification Discussion.....15 Minutes
- Guest Speaker: Jessica Bell,
- Denials of Auth to Lower Levels of Care.....5 Minutes
- Walk-On items?.....5 Minutes
- Questions and Topics for Next Forum.....5 Minutes

1115 Demonstration Waiver Amendment

Amendment will include request to reimburse the first 15-days of IMD stays that exceed the current 15-day limit under “in lieu of” authority.

HCPF has been working with key stakeholders during this legislative session regarding the Governor's budget item associated with the IMD/SMI component of the 1115 SUD Waiver Amendment. It is our understanding that some folks are talking to the JBC to ask them to require HCPF to pursue coverage up to 60 days while managing to an average length of stay of 30 days. If you would like to provide any additional comments, suggestions on different parameters or strategy, support or concerns about the IMD/SMI waiver effort, you can share these with Lauren Snyder from Mental Health Colorado (970) 946-8029.

Please follow up with HCPF Staff or HCPF_IMD@state.co.us with any additional questions

Barriers Identified

- ✓ Awaiting State Hospital Beds
- ❑ Patient Acuity
- ✓ Admission in another facility in same month
- ✓ Delays in Court Ordered Medication
- ✓ Continuum of care access issues
- ❑ Care transition challenges/ housing instability
- ✓ Inconsistent application of Medical Necessity Criteria (RAE Denials Data)
- ✓ Timely filing limits
- ✓ Denials of Authorization to lower level of care

State Hospital Admissions

Colorado Mental Health Hospital guest attendees:

- Lawrence Rodriguez – CDHS
- Jennifer Vasquez – CDHS
- Dawn Tripp – CDHS

• Discussion

- How do Providers refer to the State Mental Health Hospitals?
 - Is this published somewhere or available for reference?
- What is the estimated patient need from the IMD facilities?
- Questions for the State Mental Health Hospital staff?

27-65 Certification

➤ Continued Cross-Agency Discussions are ongoing

➤ Guest Speaker:
Jessica Bell, BHA
jessica.bell@state.co.us
Associate Director of the 27-65 Unit

Discussion Topics:

1. Initiating a Short-Term Certification
 1. Required forms
 2. Jurisdiction to File
 3. Changes 7/1/24
2. Requirements to transfer a Certification
3. Placement Facility Agreements
4. Questions

Denials of Authorization to Lower care levels

- Per our Stakeholder Summary Report:
 - IMD providers requested more "transparency regarding medical necessity criteria for decision making associated with transitioning members to partial hospitalization facilities, intensive outpatient treatment, as well as ATUs and other stepdown services."
 - Can providers speak to this more specifically? What barriers and challenges can you outline for our discussion?
 - Do any MCEs or Providers have any data or other information they'd like to present to contribute to this discussion today?

Walk-On Items?

Next Time....

- 1. Homelessness and Care Transitions: Tell us More**
- 2. Patient Acuity: Tell us More**
- 3. Unfunded care and Medicaid Renewals updates**

Discussion Summary

- 1115 SUD Demonstration Waiver SMI/SED Amendment component update:
 - Some advocates are pursuing expanding the scope of coverage to include stays up to 60 days while maintaining a statewide average length of stay (ALOS) of 30 days. This requires legislative action/funding
 - IMD stakeholders can reach out to Mental Health Colorado to share feedback on this effort.
- State Hospital Admissions
 - Providers are looking for increased streamlining in the referral process and possibly increased collaboration with the State Hospitals in the future to continue working towards backlog solutions and increased quality of patient care
 - CMHHIP clarified that their facility accepts forensic patients exclusively, usually from judicial-involved settings or directly from ER spaces with holds.
 - CMHHFL stated that they work directly with MCEs and CMHCs to ensure that there is a plan in place for safe discharge for each patient who is referred to their facility for admission.
 - State Hospitals and CDHS are working to reduce the length of their waitlist and the time patients may spend waitlisted
 - Complications due to discharge barriers and case management effect the State Hospitals exponentially due to care transition restrictions
- 27-65 Certification Discussion
 - Jessica Bell, Associate Director of the 27-65 Unit at BHA, available to answer provider questions
 - Jurisdiction Filing Standard clarified: Certification MUST be filed in the county of the patient's residence
 - BHA representatives will attend future meetings to continue to be a resource; she will also find the best point of contact at the BHA to provide to Providers with questions or concerns re: County Judicial systems
- Denials of Authorization to lower levels of care
 - Providers asked to bring this topic to the next forum in order to prepare additional data
 - MCEs clarified that they are able to discuss individual cases with barriers to step-down services on an ongoing basis with providers

Action Items

➤ **HCPF:**

- ☐ HCPF will follow-up with IMD stakeholders to prepare for a conversation surrounding Care Transitions, Patient Acuity, and additional discussion regarding denials of authorization for transitions to lower levels of care

➤ **Provider Facilities:**

- ☐ Providers were asked to prepare data and other information for upcoming discussion on:
 - ☐ Care Transitions and Housing instability
 - ☐ Denials of authorization to lower LOC
 - ☐ Patient Acuity as a barrier to access to care

➤ **MCEs:**

- ☐ Prepare for March discussion with any additional information or data on the above topics: care transitions, housing instability concerns, patient acuity increases, and/or denials of authorization to lower LOC