

## MEDICAID PROVIDER BULLETIN

February 2017

This is an update about information in the provider manual. For access to the latest manual, go online to <https://mediproviders.anthem.com/ky>.

### Interqual guidelines to determine medical necessity

#### Summary

Effective April 1, 2017, Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield Medicaid (Anthem) will begin utilizing Interqual guidelines for medical necessity criteria. The American Society of Addiction Medicine will be used for substance use. If Interqual does not cover a behavioral health service, Anthem will follow the standardized tools for medical necessity determinations. For adults, Level of Care Utilization System (LOCUS) will be used. For children, Child and Adolescent Service Intensity Instrument (CASII) or the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths Scale (CANS) will be used. For young children, Early Childhood Service Intensity Instrument (ECSII) will be used.

All physician-administered medications will be reviewed using Anthem's drug medical policies and clinical utilization management guidelines.

Anthem currently uses MCG Health, LLC (formerly known as Milliman Care) criteria to determine medical necessity of precertification required services.

#### Why is this change necessary?

At the request of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, Anthem will use the nationally recognized, peer-reviewed and evidence-based criteria, Interqual, when reviewing the medical necessity for inpatient and outpatient services. These guidelines are written by physicians, nurses and other health care professionals and represent a compilation of best practices drawn from current medical evidence. These guidelines will assist us in making medical necessity and level-of-care determinations.

Effective April 1, 2017, state requirements mandate the use of the standardized tools noted above.

#### What is the impact of this change?

We are moving to a standardized, widely adopted set of medical review criteria to help providers render quality care while reducing members' underuse, overuse or misuse of medical resources.

#### Questions

If you have questions about this communication, please contact your Provider Relations representative or Provider Services at **1-855-661-2028**.

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