

Behavioral Health Services (BHS) – Contractor Information Notice

To:	BHS Children, Youth, and Families (CYF) Mental Health Outpatient Organizational Providers
From:	Behavioral Health Services
Date:	June 29, 2021
Title	CYF Utilization Management (UM) Reinstated Effective July 1, 2021 Updated UM Request Form and Explanation Sheet

In April 2020 (CYF Memo #18, 4/1/20), the Children, Youth, and Families (CYF) mental health outpatient organizational provider Utilization Management (UM) session-based process was temporarily revised to ensure children and youth had access to more frequent check-in sessions during the COVID-19 pandemic.

UM Process Update

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) recently issued behavioral health information notices rescinding various flexibilities established during the COVID-19 emergency. In alignment with the sunset of various accommodations during the pandemic, the CYF outpatient UM temporary suspension for session-based services through organizational providers will end on June 30, 2021.

As of July 1, 2021 all current and new outpatient admissions will begin the session-based Utilization Management cycle.

This is a modification from the April 1, 2020 CYF Memo which outlined the expectation that upon reinstating the UM cycle tracking of sessions would date back to sessions provided prior to March 15, 2020. Allowing all UM sessions to begin effective July 1, 2021 will simplify the process for providers and eliminate the need to track previously rendered services. Programs concerned with high volume of UM processing may elect to create an internal staggering system for earlier UM reviews.

Attachments

Attached please find the updated Utilization Management Request Form for CYF outpatient treatment and Utilization Management Request Explanation Sheet, both dated June 25, 2021. The updated UM Request form has been revised to organize clinical considerations for continued services and an eligibility section that reviews medical necessity.

- Utilization Management Request Form – Revised 6.25.21
- Utilization Management Request Explanation Sheet – Revised 6.25.21

cc: Optum Public Sector San Diego
Health Services Research Center (HSRC)
Child and Adolescent Services Research Center (CASRC)

For More Information:

- Contact your Contracting Officer’s Representative (COR)