



# MONTANA HEALTHCARE PROGRAMS NOTICE

August 6, 2018

## Chemical Dependency

**Effective August 6, 2018**

### **SUD Prior Authorization - ASAM 3.7**

The Department has made changes to Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Prior Authorization (PA) for SUD Medically Monitored Intensive Inpatient (ASAM 3.7) Adult and SUD Medically Monitored High Intensity Inpatient (ASAM 3.7) Adolescent process and revised the SUD PA Form for Residential and Inpatient Services.

In an effort to reduce barriers to SUD acute services, the following changes have been made to the PA process and form:

- All PA date spans will be for three days.
- Results of an initial dip strip test upon intake must be written in the clinical rationale (Dimension 1). Lab results from the initial ASAM 3.7 admission will be required for ASAM 3.7 CSR requests but will no longer be required for ASAM 3.7 PA requests.
- The SUD PA form must still be submitted within 36 hours of admission to ASAM 3.7.
- The SUD PA form for ASAM 3.7 must be completed and signed by a Licensed Physician, Physician Assistant, or Nurse Practitioner (staffing requirements per ARM 37.106.1475) to attest that ASAM 3.7 services are medically appropriate (24-hour nurse monitoring/observation and medical interventions).

For members needing services that continue beyond the initial three days, the provider must submit a SUD Continued Stay Request (CSR). There have been no changes to the SUD CSR process or forms for ASAM 3.7. Readmission into ASAM 3.7 within 24 hours of discharge will be considered the same episode of care and the provider is required to submit a CSR request.

Please note that for stimulant withdrawal ASAM 3.7 is not indicated for issues solely associated with Dimension 1. However, there are additional factors (multiple substances, psychotic reactions, medical complications) that would increase the severity and indicate a sub-acute level of care.

### **Contact Information**

If you have any questions, please contact:

[Isaac Coy, LAC, Clinical Treatment Manager, email icoy@mt.gov](mailto:icoy@mt.gov) or

telephone (406) 444-7922

[For additional information, contact Montana Provider Relations at \(800\) 624-3958 or \(406\) 442-1837 or email MTPRHelpdesk@conduent.com.](https://medicaidprovider.mt.gov)

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