IHCP temporarily revises PA process for acute care hospital inpatient admissions

Effective for dates of service (DOS) on or after April 1, 2020, through the duration of the public health emergency for coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), Indiana Medicaid is instituting a streamlined prior authorization (PA) process for acute care hospital inpatient admissions.

For admissions, acute care hospitals will only be required to submit basic information on the IHCP Prior Authorization Form (universal PA form available from the Forms page at in.gov/medicaid/providers) or electronically through the managed care entity (MCE) provider portal or the IHCP Provider Healthcare Portal (Portal). Clinical documentation is not required, but may still be submitted to support the assignment of health plan care managers to patients in need of support services.

Authorizations will be automatically approved for a period of 60 days from date of admission of the IHCP member. Acute care hospitals must submit the PA request within 72 hours of the member’s admission and will receive a confirmation response from the MCE with which the member is enrolled or from DXC Technology for services delivered under the fee-for-service (FFS) system.

The following information remains required on the universal PA form (or electronic equivalent):

- Rendering provider number
- Rendering provider tax ID
- Rendering provider address
- Member ID (also known as RID)
- Member name
- Member date of birth
- Start date of request
- Stop date of request
- Procedure, service, or revenue code
- International Classification of Diseases (ICD) diagnosis
- Preparer name
- Preparer phone
- Number of units
- Signature

Inpatient psychiatric and substance use disorder admissions are not subject to this temporary PA process and continue to require a completed universal PA form or PA request submitted electronically through the appropriate managed care portal or IHCP Portal with clinical information attached.

As a reminder, under the Governor’s executive order 20-04, hospitals and ambulatory surgical centers are directed to cancel or postpone elective and nonurgent surgical procedures immediately.
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