Residential Crisis Stabilization

Last Updated: [10/20/2023]

Service Type:

0050 Outpatient Psych (Enhanced Behavioral Health Services)

Procedure Code:

H2018

Medical Necessity Criteria

Admission Criteria

Individuals must meet all of the following criteria:

- One of the following must be present:
 - The individual must be experiencing a behavioral health crisis; or
 - The individual is stepping down from a higher level of care after a recent behavioral health crisis and needs continued stabilization prior to returning to the community
- Documentation indicates evidence that the individual currently meets criteria for a primary diagnosis
 consistent with the most recent version of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and
 Related Health Problems (ICD) diagnosis that correlates with the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual; and
- One of the following must be present:
 - Substantial changes in behavior noted by significant impairment or decompensation in functioning related to a behavioral health crisis; or
 - o Actual or potential danger to self or others as evidenced by:
 - Suicidal thoughts or behaviors and/or recent self-injurious behavior with suicidal intent;
 - Hopelessness and helplessness likely to lead to self-injury or
 - Threatening harm to others or homicidal ideation; or
 - Command hallucinations or delusions: or
 - Acted in unpredictable, disruptive or bizarre ways that require further immediate observation and evaluation; or
 - o Significant loss of impulse control that threatens the safety of the individual and/or others; or
 - Significant inability to maintain basic care for oneself and to keep oneself safe in the community in an age-appropriate manner that is not associated with Dementia; or
 - Intoxication that causes significant emotional, behavioral, medical, or thought process disturbance that interfere with judgment so as to seriously endanger the individual if not monitored and evaluated; or



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- Acute stress reaction that threatens to lead to significant emotional and/or behavioral deterioration without rapid intervention, evaluation, and treatment; or
- Individual does not have the ability and/or the resources to support maintenance of safety and/or stability in the community until longer term services are available/accessible or mobilized; and
- The presenting clinical problem requires a safe, contained environment wherein assessment, evaluation and treatment can be conducted to determine next steps in the individual's care; and
- Without urgent intervention, the individual will likely decompensate which will further interfere with their ability to function in at least one of the following life domains: family, living situation, school, social, work, or community.

*The medical necessity for individuals admitted under a Temporary Detention Order (TDO) issued pursuant to section §37.2-800 et. seq. and §16.1-335 et seq. of the Code of Virginia is established and DMAS or its contractor cannot limit or deny services specified in a TDO (see the Temporary Detention Order Supplement to the Psychiatric Services Manual for additional details).

Continued Stay Criteria

All of the following criteria must be met:

- The individual continues to meet admission criteria
- Another less restrictive level of care would not be adequate to meet the individual's safety needs
- Treatment is still necessary to reduce symptoms and improve functioning so that the individual may participate in a less restrictive level of care
- There is evidence of progress towards resolution of the symptoms that are preventing treatment from continuing in a less restrictive level of care



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- The individual's progress is monitored regularly and the treatment plan is modified if the Individual is not making substantial progress toward a set of clearly defined and measurable goals
- Psychiatric medication monitoring is occurring as clinically indicated.
- Individual/family/guardian/caregiver/natural support is participating in treatment as clinically indicated and appropriate, or engagement efforts are underway
- Coordination of care and active discharge planning are ongoing, with goal of transitioning the individual to a less intensive level of care

Discharge Criteria

Any one of the following criteria must be met:

- The individual no longer meets admission criteria and/or meets criteria for another level of care, either more or less intensive, and that level of care is available; or
- The individual is not making progress toward goals, nor is there expectation of any progress and a different level of care is being recommended by the supervising LMHP; or
- Functional status is restored as indicated by one or both of the following:
 - No essential function is significantly impaired; and/or
 - An essential function is impaired, but impairment is manageable at an available lower level of care

