

LA.CLI.075 23 Hour Behavioral Health Observation – In Lieu of Service

Effective Date: 01/01/2023

Accountable Dept.: LA Medicaid Utilization Management

Reviewed Date: 10/01/2024

Summary of Changes:

10/01/2024: Annual Review, No Changes

Scope:

This policy applies to all Humana Healthy Horizons® in Louisiana (Plan) associates who administer, review, or communicate covered physical and behavioral health benefits and services to eligible enrolled members.

The purpose of offering this In Lieu of Service (ILOS) is to provide coverage for 23-hour observation bed services for members aged 21 and older.

The Plan has determined that this service is a medically appropriate and cost-effective substitute for inpatient psychiatric hospitalization admissions covered under the Louisiana State Medicaid Plan by providing 23-hours crisis respite and observation in a secure setting. This service is aimed for members who are voluntarily admitting for less than 24 hours due to sub-imminent crisis stabilization which is currently not available consistently throughout the entire state of Louisiana. This service is intended to prevent psychiatric/psychologic impairments through rapid stabilization thus leading to the sooner return of functional independence.

~~This ILOS is not duplicative of other Plan services.~~

This ILOS may be subject to clinical claims reviews.

Policy:

The Plan provides coverage for 23-hour behavioral health observation service ~~is-as~~ a covered ILOS for Plan members aged 21 years and older.

No prior authorization is required for members to receive this ILOS.

Definitions:

In Lieu of Service (ILOS) – Alternative services or settings covered by Humana Healthy Horizons in Louisiana as a substitute or alternative to services or settings covered under the Louisiana Medicaid State Plan. In accordance with 42 CFR § 438.3(e)(2), ILOS are medically appropriate and cost-effective substitute services that are offered voluntarily by the health plan. ~~A medically appropriate service outside of MCO Covered Services or settings~~

~~(or beyond service limits established by Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) for MCO Covered Services) that are provided to enrollees, at their option, by the Contractor as a cost-effective alternative to an MCO Covered Service or setting.~~

References:

Louisiana Department of Health Bureau of Health Services Financing. Louisiana Medicaid Managed Care Organization Contract: Attachment A, Part 2, Section 2.4.4 In Lieu of Services (01/01/2023). Accessed 10/01/2024.

Louisiana Department of Health Bureau of Health Services Financing. Louisiana Medicaid Managed Care Organization Contract: Attachment C: In Lieu of Services (12/14/2023); Accessed 10/01/2024.

Louisiana Department of Health. Louisiana Managed Care Organization (MCO) Manual (08/15/2024); Accessed 10/01/2024.

Owner: Brandy Holmes

Executive Team Member: Richard Born

Accountable VP / Director: Nicole Thibodeaux

Non-Compliance:

Failure to comply with any part of Humana's policies, procedures, and guidelines may result in disciplinary actions up to and including termination of employment, services, or relationship with Humana. In addition, state and/or federal agencies may take action in accordance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

Any unlawful act involving Humana systems or information may result in Humana turning over all evidence of unlawful activity to appropriate authorities. Information on handling sanctions related to noncompliance with this policy may be found in the Expectations for Performance, and Critical Offenses policies, both of which may be found in the Associate Support Center via Humana's secure intranet on Hi! (Workday & Apps/Associate Support Center).