



ParityManager™ Report

Maryland Department of Health

Medicaid - Merged Optum FFS Priority Partners 9142020

September 15, 2021

8

Parity Flags

Executive Summary

The table below displays a count of parity flags for each Standard.

	Parity Flag
Annual/Lifetime Dollar Limits	0
Financial Requirements	0
Quantitative Treatment Limitations (QTLs) Requirements	0
Identification of Nonquantitative Treatment Limitations (NQTLs)	8

The table below displays a list of Standards missing information and need additional input.

	Missing Information
Annual/Lifetime Dollar Limits	Yes
Financial Requirements	Yes
Quantitative Treatment Limitations (QTLs) Requirements	Yes
Comparative Analysis "In Operation"	Yes

The URAC ParityManager™ facilitates the processes that a modern parity compliance program needs to have but, as a document management and communications software solution, ParityManager™ does not in and of itself automatically result in parity compliant operations.

Annual/Lifetime Dollar Limits

The number of flags per classification and limit type combination is shown.

	Parity Flag
Lifetime Dollar Limits	0
Annual Dollar Limits	0

If either section is considered incomplete, it is reported in the table below.

	Missing Information
Lifetime Dollar Limits	Y
Annual Dollar Limits	Y

Benefit Identification and Classification

The number of flags per classification and category combination shown below.

	Parity Flag		
	Mental Health	Substance Use Disorder	Medical/Surgical
Inpatient	0	0	0
Outpatient - Other	0	0	0
Outpatient - Office Based	0	0	0
Emergency Benefits	0	0	0
Prescription Drugs	0	0	0

Any classification/category combination considered incomplete is reported in the table below.

	Missing Information		
	Mental Health	Substance Use Disorder	Medical/Surgical
Inpatient	-	-	-
Outpatient - Other	-	-	-
Outpatient - Office Based	-	-	-
Emergency Benefits	-	-	-
Prescription Drugs	-	-	-

Financial Requirements

The number of flags per classification and limit type combination is shown.

	Parity Flag			
	Deductible	Copay	Coinsurance	Out-of-pocket maximum
Inpatient	0	0	0	0
Outpatient - Other	0	0	0	0
Outpatient - Office Based	0	0	0	0
Emergency Benefits	0	0	0	0
Prescription Drugs	0	0	0	0

Any classification/limit type combination considered incomplete is reported in the table below.

	Missing Information			
	Deductible	Copay	Coinsurance	Out-of-pocket maximum
Inpatient	Y	Y	Y	Y
Outpatient - Other	Y	Y	Y	Y
Outpatient - Office Based	Y	Y	Y	Y
Emergency Benefits	Y	Y	Y	Y
Prescription Drugs	Y	Y	Y	Y

Quantitative Treatment Limitations (QTLs) Requirements

The number of flags per classification and limit type combination is shown.

	Parity Flag		
	Day Limits	Hour Limits	Visit Limits
Inpatient	0	0	0
Outpatient - Other	0	0	0
Outpatient - Office Based	0	0	0
Emergency Benefits	0	0	0
Prescription Drugs	0	0	0

Any classification/limit type combination considered incomplete is reported in the table below.

	Missing Information		
	Day Limits	Hour Limits	Visit Limits
Inpatient	Y	Y	Y
Outpatient - Other	Y	Y	Y
Outpatient - Office Based	Y	Y	Y
Emergency Benefits	Y	Y	Y
Prescription Drugs	Y	Y	Y

Identification of Nonquantitative Treatment Limitations (NQTLs)

The number of flags per classification and category combination shown below.

	Parity Flag		
	Mental Health	Substance Use Disorder	Medical/Surgical
Inpatient	1	1	0
Outpatient - Other	1	1	0
Outpatient - Office Based	1	1	0
Emergency Benefits	1	1	0
Prescription Drugs	0	0	0

Any classification/category/NQTL combination considered incomplete is reported in the table below.

	Missing Information		
	Mental Health	Substance Use Disorder	Medical/Surgical
Inpatient	-	-	-
Outpatient - Other	-	-	-
Outpatient - Office Based	-	-	-
Emergency Benefits	-	-	-
Prescription Drugs	-	-	-

Universal Application of NQTL

Classification: Inpatient NQTL: Outlier Management

Definitions

NONE PROVIDED. SEE DOCUMENT REFERENCES

References

- Maryland Medicaid_Parity Analysis Definitions_7.16.20.pdf

Factors

Medical/Surgical

- Appropriateness of utilization
- Excessive utilization
- Industry Standards
- Safety risks
- Service type
- Severity or chronicity of an illness

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- Excessive utilization
- High levels of variation in length of stay
- Least restrictive appropriate level of care
- Service type
- Severity or chronicity of an illness
- Variability in quality

Definitions

- **Excessive utilization:** Procedures for which we have identified possible over-utilization.
- **High levels of variation in length of stay:** this is an error and should not be listed
- **Least restrictive appropriate level of care:** Lowest level of care the individual can be safely and effectively treated.
- **Service type:** Type of service being requested.
- **Severity or chronicity of an illness:** Does the medication match the severity and chronicity of the illness
- **Variability in quality:** Drugs must be marketed as safe and therapeutically active formulations whose performance is consistent and predictable.

Medical/Surgical

1. Appropriateness of utilization

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal market and competitive analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

2. Excessive utilization

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal market and competitive analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

3. Industry Standards

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

1. Excessive utilization

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Utilization is two standard deviations above average utilization per episode of care.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis

2. High levels of variation in length of stay

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Utilization is two standard deviations above average utilization per episode of care.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis

3. Least restrictive appropriate level of care

the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits

- Internal market and competitive analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

4. Safety risks

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal market and competitive analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

5. Service type

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal market and competitive analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

6. Severity or chronicity of an illness

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal market and competitive analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Utilization is two standard deviations above average utilization per episode of care.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis

4. Service type

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Utilization is two standard deviations above average utilization per episode of care.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis

5. Severity or chronicity of an illness

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Utilization is two standard deviations above average utilization per episode of care.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis

6. Variability in quality

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Utilization is two standard deviations above average utilization per episode of care.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis

Operations Measures

Medical/Surgical

- Degree of discretion exercised by utilization review staff
- Exception processes available for each NQTL requirement and when they may be applied.
- Frequency that authorization requirements are waived
- Frequency with which reviews are conducted
- Inter-rater reliability surveys for medical/surgical, mental health and substance use disorder reviewers

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- Authorization Denial Rates for MH/SUD
- Inter-rater reliability surveys for medical/surgical, mental health and substance use disorder reviewers
- Internal audit findings related to coverage determination consistency with the plan's medical necessity criteria
- Outlier Management Data
- Outlier Management Data

- Number of days or visits authorized per review
- Utilization trends

Classification: Inpatient NQTL: Service Limitations

Definitions

NONE PROVIDED. SEE DOCUMENT REFERENCES

References

- Maryland Medicaid_Parity Analysis Definitions_7.16.20.pdf

Factors

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p><u>Medical/Surgical</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not Applicable | <p><u>Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not Applicable |
|---|---|

Definitions

- **Not Applicable:** NQTL does not apply for this classification

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p><u>Medical/Surgical</u></p> <p>1. Not Applicable
Evidentiary Standard
Source</p> | <p><u>Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder</u></p> <p>1. Not Applicable
Evidentiary Standard
Source<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Not Applicable</p> |
|--|--|

Operations Measures

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p><u>Medical/Surgical</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• NQTL does not apply to any services in this classification | <p><u>Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• NQTL does not apply to any services in this classification |
|---|---|

References

- Maryland Medicaid_Parity Analysis Definitions_9.10.20.pdf

Classification: Inpatient NQL: concurrent review

Definitions

NONE PROVIDED. SEE DOCUMENT REFERENCES

References

- Maryland Medicaid_Parity Analysis Definitions_7.16.20.pdf

Factors

Medical/Surgical

- Appropriateness of utilization
- Excessive utilization
- High levels of variation in length of stay
- Industry Standards
- Service type

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- High levels of variation in length of stay
- Least restrictive appropriate level of care
- Not Applicable
- Service type
- Severity or chronicity of an illness
- Variability in quality

Definitions

- **High levels of variation in length of stay:** this is an error and should not be listed
- **Least restrictive appropriate level of care:** Lowest level of care the individual can be safely and effectively treated.
- **Not Applicable:** NQL does not apply for this classification
- **Service type:** Type of service being requested.
- **Severity or chronicity of an illness:** Does the medication match the severity and chronicity of the illness
- **Variability in quality:** Drugs must be marketed as safe and therapeutically active formulations whose performance is consistent and predictable.

Medical/Surgical

1. Appropriateness of utilization

Evidentiary Standard

MCO opted to skip this question

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Not Applicable
- Utilization is two standard deviations above average utilization per episode of care.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Internal market and competitive analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

2. Excessive utilization

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Not Applicable

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

1. High levels of variation in length of stay

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Not Applicable

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQL to benefits
- Not Applicable

2. Least restrictive appropriate level of care

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Not Applicable

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQL to benefits
- Not Applicable

3. Not Applicable

Evidentiary Standard

- Utilization is two standard deviations above average utilization per episode of care.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Internal market and competitive analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

3. High levels of variation in length of stay

Evidentiary Standard

MCO opted to skip this question

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Not Applicable
- Utilization is two standard deviations above average utilization per episode of care.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Internal market and competitive analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

4. Industry Standards

Evidentiary Standard

MCO opted to skip this question

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Not Applicable
- Utilization is two standard deviations above average utilization per episode of care.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Internal market and competitive analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

5. Service type

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Not Applicable
- Utilization is two standard deviations above average utilization per episode of care.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Not Applicable

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Not Applicable

4. Service type

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Not Applicable

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Not Applicable

5. Severity or chronicity of an illness

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Not Applicable

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Not Applicable

6. Variability in quality

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Not Applicable

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Not Applicable

- Internal claims analysis
- Internal market and competitive analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

Operations Measures

Medical/Surgical

- Degree of discretion exercised by utilization review staff
- Exception processes available for each NQTL requirement and when they may be applied.
- Frequency that authorization requirements are waived
- Frequency with which reviews are conducted
- Inter-rater reliability surveys for medical/surgical, mental health and substance use disorder reviewers
- Number of days or visits authorized per review

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- Authorization Denial Rates for MH/SUD
- Authorization Denial Rates for MH/SUD
- Inter-rater reliability surveys for medical/surgical, mental health and substance use disorder reviewers
- Internal audit findings related to coverage determination consistency with the plan's medical necessity criteria

Classification: Inpatient NQTL: data collection

Definitions

NONE PROVIDED. SEE DOCUMENT REFERENCES

References

- Maryland Medicaid_Parity Analysis Definitions_7.16.20.pdf

Factors

Medical/Surgical

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- Not Applicable

Definitions

- **Not Applicable:** NQTL does not apply for this classification

Medical/Surgical

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

1. **Not Applicable**

Evidentiary Standard

- Not Applicable

Source

- Not Applicable

Operations Measures

Medical/Surgical

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- NQTL does not apply to any services in this classification

References

- Optum Benefits Mapping_MDH Revisions_7.17.20.xlsx

Classification: Inpatient

NQTL: fail first requirements/step therapy

Definitions

NONE PROVIDED. SEE DOCUMENT REFERENCES

References

- Maryland Medicaid_Parity Analysis Definitions_7.16.20.pdf

Factors

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p><u>Medical/Surgical</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not Applicable | <p><u>Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not Applicable |
|---|---|

Definitions

- **Not Applicable:** NQTL does not apply for this classification

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p><u>Medical/Surgical</u></p> <p>1. Not Applicable
Evidentiary Standard
Source</p> | <p><u>Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder</u></p> <p>1. Not Applicable
Evidentiary Standard
Source<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Not Applicable</p> |
|--|--|

Operations Measures

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p><u>Medical/Surgical</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• NQTL does not apply to any services in this classification | <p><u>Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• NQTL does not apply to any services in this classification |
|---|---|

References

- Optum Benefits Mapping_MDH Revisions_7.17.20.xlsx
- Maryland Medicaid_Parity Analysis Definitions_9.10.20.pdf

Classification: Inpatient NQTL: medical necessity

Definitions

NONE PROVIDED. SEE DOCUMENT REFERENCES

References

- Maryland Medicaid_Parity Analysis Definitions_7.16.20.pdf

Factors

Medical/Surgical

- Appropriateness of utilization
- Excessive utilization
- Industry Standards
- Lack of clinical efficiency of treatment or service
- Service type

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- High levels of variation in length of stay
- Least restrictive appropriate level of care
- Least restrictive appropriate level of care
- Not Applicable
- Service type
- Severity or chronicity of an illness
- Variability in quality

Definitions

- **High levels of variation in length of stay:** this is an error and should not be listed
- **Least restrictive appropriate level of care:** Lowest level of care the individual can be safely and effectively treated.
- **Least restrictive appropriate level of care:** lowest level of care the individual can be safely and effectively treated.
- **Not Applicable:** NQTL does not apply for this classification
- **Service type:** Type of service being requested.
- **Severity or chronicity of an illness:** Does the medication match the severity and chronicity of the illness
- **Variability in quality:** Drugs must be marketed as safe and therapeutically active formulations whose performance is consistent and predictable.

Medical/Surgical

1. Appropriateness of utilization

Evidentiary Standard

MCO opted to skip this question

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Not Applicable
- Utilization is two standard deviations above average utilization per episode of care.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

2. Excessive utilization

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

1. High levels of variation in length of stay

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Not Applicable
- Utilization is two standard deviations above average utilization per episode of care.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable

2. Least restrictive appropriate level of care

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Not Applicable
- Utilization is two standard deviations above average utilization per episode of care.

Source

- Not Applicable
- Utilization is two standard deviations above average utilization per episode of care.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

3. Industry Standards

Evidentiary Standard

MCO opted to skip this question

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Not Applicable
- Utilization is two standard deviations above average utilization per episode of care.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

4. Lack of clinical efficiency of treatment or service

Evidentiary Standard

MCO opted to skip this question

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Not Applicable
- Utilization is two standard deviations above average utilization per episode of care.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

5. Service type

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Not Applicable
- Utilization is two standard deviations above average utilization per episode of care.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable

3. Least restrictive appropriate level of care

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Not Applicable
- Utilization is two standard deviations above average utilization per episode of care.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable

4. Not Applicable

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Not Applicable
- Utilization is two standard deviations above average utilization per episode of care.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable

5. Service type

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Not Applicable
- Utilization is two standard deviations above average utilization per episode of care.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable

6. Severity or chronicity of an illness

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Not Applicable
- Utilization is two standard deviations above average utilization per episode of care.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Medical expert reviews

- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

- Not Applicable

7. Variability in quality

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Not Applicable
- Utilization is two standard deviations above average utilization per episode of care.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable

Operations Measures

Medical/Surgical

- Degree of discretion exercised by utilization review staff
- Exception processes available for each NQTL requirement and when they may be applied.
- Frequency that authorization requirements are waived
- Frequency with which reviews are conducted
- Inter-rater reliability surveys for medical/surgical, mental health and substance use disorder reviewers
- Number of days or visits authorized per review
- Type and level of documentation (e.g., chart notes, lab results, treatment plans, etc.) the health plan requires from providers during reviews

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- Authorization Denial Rates for MH/SUD
- Inter-rater reliability surveys for medical/surgical, mental health and substance use disorder reviewers
- Internal audit findings related to coverage determination consistency with the plan's medical necessity criteria

Classification: Inpatient

NQTL: prior authorization/pre authorization

Definitions

NONE PROVIDED. SEE DOCUMENT REFERENCES

References

- Maryland Medicaid_Parity Analysis Definitions_7.16.20.pdf

Factors

Medical/Surgical

- Appropriateness of utilization
- Excessive utilization
- Industry Standards
- Medicare/Medicaid program participation eligibility
- Service type

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- Least restrictive appropriate level of care
- Not Applicable
- Severity or chronicity of an illness

Definitions

- **Least restrictive appropriate level of care:** Lowest level of care the individual can be safely and effectively treated.
- **Not Applicable:** NQTL does not apply for this classification
- **Severity or chronicity of an illness:** Does the medication match the severity and chronicity of the illness

Medical/Surgical

1. Appropriateness of utilization

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

2. Excessive utilization

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

3. Industry Standards

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

1. Least restrictive appropriate level of care

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Not Applicable

2. Not Applicable

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Not Applicable

3. Severity or chronicity of an illness

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits

- State and Federal requirements

- Not Applicable

4. Medicare/Medicaid program participation eligibility

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

5. Service type

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

Operations Measures

Medical/Surgical

- Degree of discretion exercised by utilization review staff
- Exception processes available for each NQTL requirement and when they may be applied.
- Frequency that authorization requirements are waived
- Frequency with which reviews are conducted
- Inter-rater reliability surveys for medical/surgical, mental health and substance use disorder reviewers
- Number of days or visits authorized per review

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- Authorization Denial Rates for MH/SUD
- Inter-rater reliability surveys for medical/surgical, mental health and substance use disorder reviewers
- Internal audit findings related to coverage determination consistency with the plan's medical necessity criteria

Classification: Outpatient - Other NQTL: Outlier Management

Definitions

NONE PROVIDED. SEE DOCUMENT REFERENCES

References

- Maryland Medicaid_Parity Analysis Definitions_7.16.20.pdf

Factors

Medical/Surgical

- Appropriateness of utilization
- Excessive utilization
- Industry Standards
- Safety risks
- Service type
- Severity or chronicity of an illness
- Variability in quality

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- Excessive utilization
- Variability in quality

Definitions

- **Excessive utilization:** Procedures for which we have identified possible over-utilization.
- **Variability in quality:** Drugs must be marketed as safe and therapeutically active formulations whose performance is consistent and predictable.

Medical/Surgical

1. Appropriateness of utilization

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

2. Excessive utilization

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

3. Industry Standards

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

4. Safety risks

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

1. Excessive utilization

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Utilization is two standard deviations above average utilization per episode of care.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits

2. Variability in quality

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Utilization is two standard deviations above average utilization per episode of care.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

5. Service type

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

6. Severity or chronicity of an illness

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

7. Variability in quality

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

Operations Measures

Medical/Surgical

- Exception processes available for each NQTL requirement and when they may be applied.
- Frequency with which reviews are conducted
- Inter-rater reliability surveys for medical/surgical, mental health and substance use disorder reviewers
- Utilization trends

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- Authorization Denial Rates for MH/SUD
- Inter-rater reliability surveys for medical/surgical, mental health and substance use disorder reviewers
- Internal audit findings related to coverage determination consistency with the plan's medical necessity criteria
- Outlier Management Data

References

- 1. Sample monthly FWA report - Standard Template - MD.xlsx

Classification: Outpatient - Other

NQTL: Service Limitations

Definitions

NONE PROVIDED. SEE DOCUMENT REFERENCES

References

- Maryland Medicaid_Parity Analysis Definitions_7.16.20.pdf

Factors

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p><u>Medical/Surgical</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not Applicable | <p><u>Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not Applicable• Service type |
|---|--|

Definitions

- **Not Applicable:** NQTL does not apply for this classification
- **Service type:** Type of service being requested.

- Medical/Surgical
1. **Not Applicable**
Evidentiary Standard
Source
 - Not Applicable

- Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder
1. **Not Applicable**
Evidentiary Standard
 - Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
 - Not ApplicableSource
 - Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
 - Not Applicable
 2. **Service type**
Evidentiary Standard
 - Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
 - Not ApplicableSource
 - Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
 - Not Applicable

Operations Measures

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p><u>Medical/Surgical</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• NQTL does not apply to any services in this classification | <p><u>Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Authorization Denial Rates for MH/SUD• Inter-rater reliability surveys for medical/surgical, mental health and substance use disorder reviewers• Internal audit findings related to coverage determination consistency with the plan's medical necessity criteria |
|---|--|

- NQTL does not apply to any services in this classification

References

- Auth Stats for June 2020.xlsx
- DO NOT APPLY NQTLs to OP -Other SUD v2.0.docx
- Maryland Medicaid_Parity Analysis Definitions_9.10.20.pdf

Classification: Outpatient - Other NQTL: concurrent review

Definitions

NONE PROVIDED. SEE DOCUMENT REFERENCES

References

- Maryland Medicaid_Parity Analysis Definitions_7.16.20.pdf

Factors

Medical/Surgical

- Appropriateness of utilization
- Excessive utilization
- Health plan accreditation standards for quality assurance
- Industry Standards
- Medicare/Medicaid program participation eligibility
- Quality and performance measures (including customer feedback)
- Safety risks
- Separate payments for managing a patient's care outside of face-to-face contact (e.g., care management)
- Service type

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- Clinical indications and/or evidence
- High levels of variation in length of stay
- Least restrictive appropriate level of care
- Not Applicable
- Service type
- Severity or chronicity of an illness

Definitions

- **Clinical indications and/or evidence:** Professional standards and protocols - defined as comparative effectiveness studies and clinical trials
- **High levels of variation in length of stay:** this is an error and should not be listed
- **Least restrictive appropriate level of care:** Lowest level of care the individual can be safely and effectively treated.
- **Not Applicable:** NQTL does not apply for this classification
- **Service type:** Type of service being requested.
- **Severity or chronicity of an illness:** Does the medication match the severity and chronicity of the illness

Medical/Surgical

1. Appropriateness of utilization

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

2. Excessive utilization

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

3. Health plan accreditation standards for quality assurance

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

1. Clinical indications and/or evidence

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits

2. High levels of variation in length of stay

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits

3. Least restrictive appropriate level of care

Evidentiary Standard

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

4. Industry Standards

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

5. Medicare/Medicaid program participation eligibility

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

6. Quality and performance measures (including customer feedback)

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

7. Safety risks

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

8. Separate payments for managing a patient's care outside of face-to-face contact (e.g., care management)

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits

4. Not Applicable

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits

5. Service type

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits

6. Severity or chronicity of an illness

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits

- State and Federal requirements

9. Service type

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

Operations Measures

Medical/Surgical

- Degree of discretion exercised by utilization review staff
- Exception processes available for each NQTL requirement and when they may be applied.
- Frequency with which reviews are conducted
- Inter-rater reliability surveys for medical/surgical, mental health and substance use disorder reviewers
- Number of days or visits authorized per review
- evaluation of annual concurrent reviews and prior authorization reviews completed on a quarterly basis

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- Authorization Denial Rates for MH/SUD
- Inter-rater reliability surveys for medical/surgical, mental health and substance use disorder reviewers
- Internal audit findings related to coverage determination consistency with the plan's medical necessity criteria

Classification: Outpatient - Other NQTL: data collection

Definitions

NONE PROVIDED. SEE DOCUMENT REFERENCES

References

- Maryland Medicaid_Parity Analysis Definitions_7.16.20.pdf

Factors

Medical/Surgical

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- Not Applicable

Definitions

- **Not Applicable:** NQTL does not apply for this classification

Medical/Surgical

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- 1. **Not Applicable**
 - Evidentiary Standard
 - Not Applicable
 - Source
 - Not Applicable

Operations Measures

Medical/Surgical

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- NQTL does not apply to any services in this classification

References

- Optum Benefits Mapping_MDH Revisions_7.17.20.xlsx

Classification: Outpatient - Other

NQTL: fail first requirements/step therapy

Definitions

NONE PROVIDED. SEE DOCUMENT REFERENCES

References

- Maryland Medicaid_Parity Analysis Definitions_7.16.20.pdf

Factors

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p><u>Medical/Surgical</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not Applicable | <p><u>Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not Applicable |
|---|---|

Definitions

- **Not Applicable:** NQTL does not apply for this classification

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p><u>Medical/Surgical</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Not Applicable
Evidentiary Standard
Source | <p><u>Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Not Applicable
Evidentiary Standard
Source |
|---|---|

Operations Measures

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p><u>Medical/Surgical</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Degree of discretion exercised by utilization review staff | <p><u>Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• NQTL does not apply to any services in this classification• NQTL does not apply to any services in this classification |
|---|--|

Classification: Outpatient - Other

NQTL: medical necessity

Definitions

NONE PROVIDED. SEE DOCUMENT REFERENCES

References

- Maryland Medicaid_Parity Analysis Definitions_9.10.20.pdf

Factors

Medical/Surgical

- Appropriateness of utilization
- Current and projected demand for services
- Excessive utilization
- Industry Standards
- Lack of clinical efficiency of treatment or service
- Medicare/Medicaid program participation eligibility
- Service type
- Severity or chronicity of an illness

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- High levels of variation in length of stay
- Least restrictive appropriate level of care
- Least restrictive appropriate level of care
- Service type
- Severity or chronicity of an illness
- Variability in quality

Definitions

- **High levels of variation in length of stay:** this is an error and should not be listed
- **Least restrictive appropriate level of care:** lowest level of care the individual can be safely and effectively treated.
- **Least restrictive appropriate level of care:** Lowest level of care the individual can be safely and effectively treated.
- **Service type:** Type of service being requested.
- **Severity or chronicity of an illness:** Does the medication match the severity and chronicity of the illness
- **Variability in quality:** Drugs must be marketed as safe and therapeutically active formulations whose performance is consistent and predictable.

Medical/Surgical

1. Appropriateness of utilization

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

2. Current and projected demand for services

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

3. Excessive utilization

Evidentiary Standard

Source

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

1. High levels of variation in length of stay

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits

2. Least restrictive appropriate level of care

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits

3. Least restrictive appropriate level of care

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

4. Industry Standards

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

5. Lack of clinical efficiency of treatment or service

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

6. Medicare/Medicaid program participation eligibility

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

7. Service type

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

8. Severity or chronicity of an illness

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits

4. Service type

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits

5. Severity or chronicity of an illness

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits

6. Variability in quality

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits

Operations Measures

Medical/Surgical

- Degree of discretion exercised by utilization review staff
- Exception processes available for each NQTL requirement and when they may be applied.
- Inter-rater reliability surveys for medical/surgical, mental health and substance use disorder reviewers
- Internal audit findings related to coverage determination consistency with the plan's medical necessity criteria
- Type and level of documentation (e.g., chart notes, lab results, treatment plans, etc.) the health plan requires from providers during reviews
- tracking of denial of plans of service that do not meet medical necessity

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- Authorization Denial Rates for MH/SUD
- Inter-rater reliability surveys for medical/surgical, mental health and substance use disorder reviewers
- Internal audit findings related to coverage determination consistency with the plan's medical necessity criteria

Classification: Outpatient - Other

NQTL: prior authorization/pre authorization

Definitions

NONE PROVIDED. SEE DOCUMENT REFERENCES

References

- Maryland Medicaid_Parity Analysis Definitions_7.16.20.pdf

Factors

Medical/Surgical

- Appropriateness of utilization
- Elasticity of demand
- Excessive utilization
- Medicare/Medicaid program participation eligibility
- Not Applicable
- Quality and performance measures (including customer feedback)
- Service type

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- Not Applicable
- Service type
- Severity or chronicity of an illness

Definitions

- **Not Applicable:** NQTL does not apply for this classification
- **Service type:** Type of service being requested.
- **Severity or chronicity of an illness:** Does the medication match the severity and chronicity of the illness

Medical/Surgical

1. Appropriateness of utilization

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

2. Elasticity of demand

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

3. Excessive utilization

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

1. Not Applicable

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Not Applicable

2. Service type

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Not Applicable

3. Severity or chronicity of an illness

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.

Source

- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

4. Medicare/Medicaid program participation eligibility

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

5. Not Applicable

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

6. Quality and performance measures (including customer feedback)

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

7. Service type

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Not Applicable

Operations Measures

Medical/Surgical

- Degree of discretion exercised by utilization review staff
- Exception processes available for each NQTL requirement and when they may be applied.
- Frequency with which reviews are conducted
- Inter-rater reliability surveys for medical/surgical, mental health and substance use disorder reviewers
- Number of days or visits authorized per review
- evaluation of annual concurrent reviews and prior authorization reviews completed on a quarterly basis

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- Authorization Denial Rates for MH/SUD
- Inter-rater reliability surveys for medical/surgical, mental health and substance use disorder reviewers
- Internal audit findings related to coverage determination consistency with the plan's medical necessity criteria

Classification: Outpatient - Office Based

NQTL: Outlier Management

Definitions

NONE PROVIDED. SEE DOCUMENT REFERENCES

References

- Maryland Medicaid_Parity Analysis Definitions_7.16.20.pdf

Factors

Medical/Surgical

- Appropriateness of utilization
- Excessive utilization
- High variability in cost per episode of care
- Industry Standards
- Not Applicable
- Relative reimbursement rates
- Service type

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- Excessive utilization
- High levels of variation in length of stay
- Least restrictive appropriate level of care
- Service type
- Severity or chronicity of an illness
- Variability in quality

Definitions

- **Excessive utilization:** Procedures for which we have identified possible over-utilization.
- **High levels of variation in length of stay:** this is an error and should not be listed
- **Least restrictive appropriate level of care:** Lowest level of care the individual can be safely and effectively treated.
- **Service type:** Type of service being requested.
- **Severity or chronicity of an illness:** Does the medication match the severity and chronicity of the illness
- **Variability in quality:** Drugs must be marketed as safe and therapeutically active formulations whose performance is consistent and predictable.

Medical/Surgical

1. Appropriateness of utilization

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

2. Excessive utilization

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

3. High variability in cost per episode of care

Evidentiary Standard

Source

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

1. Excessive utilization

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Utilization is two standard deviations above average utilization per episode of care.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits

2. High levels of variation in length of stay

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Utilization is two standard deviations above average utilization per episode of care.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits

3. Least restrictive appropriate level of care

Evidentiary Standard

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

4. Industry Standards

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

5. Not Applicable

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

6. Relative reimbursement rates

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

7. Service type

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Utilization is two standard deviations above average utilization per episode of care.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits

4. Service type

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Utilization is two standard deviations above average utilization per episode of care.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits

5. Severity or chronicity of an illness

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Utilization is two standard deviations above average utilization per episode of care.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits

6. Variability in quality

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Utilization is two standard deviations above average utilization per episode of care.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits

Operations Measures

Medical/Surgical

- Exception processes available for each NQTL requirement and when they may be applied.
- Inter-rater reliability surveys for medical/surgical, mental health and substance use disorder reviewers
- Utilization trends
- audits tracker (monthly)
- duplicate records (monthly)

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- Authorization Denial Rates for MH/SUD
- Inter-rater reliability surveys for medical/surgical, mental health and substance use disorder reviewers
- Internal audit findings related to coverage determination consistency with the plan's medical necessity criteria
- Outlier Management Data
- Outlier Management Data

- provider financial analysis (monthly)

References

- 1.Sample monthly FWA report - Standard Template - MD.xlsx

Classification: Outpatient - Office Based

NQTL: Service Limitations

Definitions

NONE PROVIDED. SEE DOCUMENT REFERENCES

References

- Maryland Medicaid_Parity Analysis Definitions_7.16.20.pdf

Factors

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p><u>Medical/Surgical</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not Applicable | <p><u>Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not Applicable• Service type |
|---|--|

Definitions

- **Not Applicable:** NQTL does not apply for this classification
- **Service type:** Type of service being requested.

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|--|
| <p><u>Medical/Surgical</u></p> <p>1. Not Applicable
Evidentiary Standard
Source</p> |
|--|

- | |
|--|
| <p><u>Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder</u></p> <p>1. Not Applicable
Evidentiary Standard</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.◦ Not Applicable <p>Source</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits◦ Not Applicable <p>2. Service type
Evidentiary Standard</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.◦ Not Applicable <p>Source</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits◦ Not Applicable |
|--|

Operations Measures

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p><u>Medical/Surgical</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• NQTL does not apply to any services in this classification | <p><u>Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Authorization Denial Rates for MH/SUD• Inter-rater reliability surveys for medical/surgical, mental health and substance use disorder reviewers• Internal audit findings related to coverage determination consistency with the plan's medical necessity criteria |
|---|--|

References

- Maryland Medicaid_Parity Analysis Definitions_9.10.20.pdf

Classification: Outpatient - Office Based

NQTL: concurrent review

Definitions

NONE PROVIDED. SEE DOCUMENT REFERENCES

References

- Maryland Medicaid_Parity Analysis Definitions_7.16.20.pdf

Factors

Medical/Surgical

- Appropriateness of utilization
- Industry Standards
- Severity or chronicity of an illness

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- Clinical indications and/or evidence
- High levels of variation in length of stay
- Least restrictive appropriate level of care
- Least restrictive appropriate level of care
- Not Applicable
- Service type
- Severity or chronicity of an illness
- Variability in quality

Definitions

- **Clinical indications and/or evidence:** Professional standards and protocols - defined as comparative effectiveness studies and clinical trials
- **High levels of variation in length of stay:** this is an error and should not be listed
- **Least restrictive appropriate level of care:** Lowest level of care the individual can be safely and effectively treated.
- **Least restrictive appropriate level of care:** lowest level of care the individual can be safely and effectively treated.
- **Not Applicable:** NQTL does not apply for this classification
- **Service type:** Type of service being requested.
- **Severity or chronicity of an illness:** Does the medication match the severity and chronicity of the illness
- **Variability in quality:** Drugs must be marketed as safe and therapeutically active formulations whose performance is consistent and predictable.

Medical/Surgical

1. Appropriateness of utilization

Evidentiary Standard
MCO opted to skip this question

- Not Applicable

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

2. Industry Standards

Evidentiary Standard
MCO opted to skip this question

- Not Applicable

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Medical expert reviews

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

1. Clinical indications and/or evidence

Evidentiary Standard
◦ Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Not Applicable

2. High levels of variation in length of stay

Evidentiary Standard
◦ Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Not Applicable

3. Least restrictive appropriate level of care

- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

3. Severity or chronicity of an illness

Evidentiary Standard

MCO opted to skip this question

- Not Applicable

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Not Applicable

4. Least restrictive appropriate level of care

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Not Applicable

5. Not Applicable

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Not Applicable

6. Service type

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Not Applicable

7. Severity or chronicity of an illness

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Not Applicable

8. Variability in quality

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Not Applicable

Operations Measures

Medical/Surgical

- Exception processes available for each NQTL requirement and when they may be applied.
- Inter-rater reliability surveys for medical/surgical, mental health and substance use disorder reviewers
- Number of days or visits authorized per review

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- Authorization Denial Rates for MH/SUD
- Inter-rater reliability surveys for medical/surgical, mental health and substance use disorder reviewers
- Internal audit findings related to coverage determination consistency with the plan's medical necessity criteria

Classification: Outpatient - Office Based

NQTL: data collection

Definitions

NONE PROVIDED. SEE DOCUMENT REFERENCES

References

- Maryland Medicaid_Parity Analysis Definitions_7.16.20.pdf

Factors

Medical/Surgical

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- Not Applicable

Definitions

- **Not Applicable:** NQTL does not apply for this classification

Medical/Surgical

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

1. **Not Applicable**

Evidentiary Standard

- Not Applicable

Source

- Not Applicable

Operations Measures

Medical/Surgical

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- NQTL does not apply to any services in this classification

Classification: Outpatient - Office Based

NQTL: fail first requirements/step therapy

Definitions

NONE PROVIDED. SEE DOCUMENT REFERENCES

References

- Maryland Medicaid_Parity Analysis Definitions_7.16.20.pdf

Factors

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p><u>Medical/Surgical</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not Applicable | <p><u>Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not Applicable• Service type |
|---|--|

Definitions

- **Not Applicable:** NQTL does not apply for this classification
- **Service type:** Type of service being requested.

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|--|
| <p><u>Medical/Surgical</u></p> <p>1. Not Applicable</p> <p>Evidentiary Standard</p> <p>Source</p> |
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- | |
|--|
| <p><u>Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder</u></p> <p>1. Not Applicable</p> <p>Evidentiary Standard</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines. <p>Source</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits <p>2. Service type</p> <p>Evidentiary Standard</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines. <p>Source</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits |
|--|

Operations Measures

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p><u>Medical/Surgical</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• NQTL does not apply to any services in this classification | <p><u>Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• NQTL does not apply to any services in this classification |
|---|---|

References

- Optum Benefits Mapping_MDH Revisions_7.17.20.xlsx
- Maryland Medicaid_Parity Analysis Definitions_9.10.20.pdf

Classification: Outpatient - Office Based

NQTL: medical necessity

Definitions

NONE PROVIDED. SEE DOCUMENT REFERENCES

References

- Maryland Medicaid_Parity Analysis Definitions_7.16.20.pdf

Factors

Medical/Surgical

- Appropriateness of utilization
- Excessive utilization
- High variability in cost per episode of care
- Industry Standards
- Lack of adherence to quality standards
- Lack of clinical efficiency of treatment or service
- Relative reimbursement rates
- Service type

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- High levels of variation in length of stay
- Lack of clinical efficiency of treatment or service
- Least restrictive appropriate level of care
- Service type
- Severity or chronicity of an illness
- Variability in quality

Definitions

- **High levels of variation in length of stay:** this is an error and should not be listed
- **Lack of clinical efficiency of treatment or service:** treatment that is not based on evidenced based clinical criteria such as InterQual guidelines.
- **Least restrictive appropriate level of care:** Lowest level of care the individual can be safely and effectively treated.
- **Service type:** Type of service being requested.
- **Severity or chronicity of an illness:** Does the medication match the severity and chronicity of the illness
- **Variability in quality:** Drugs must be marketed as safe and therapeutically active formulations whose performance is consistent and predictable.

Medical/Surgical

1. Appropriateness of utilization

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

2. Excessive utilization

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

3. High variability in cost per episode of care

Evidentiary Standard

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

1. High levels of variation in length of stay

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits

2. Lack of clinical efficiency of treatment or service

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits

3. Least restrictive appropriate level of care

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

4. Industry Standards

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

5. Lack of adherence to quality standards

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

6. Lack of clinical efficiency of treatment or service

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

7. Relative reimbursement rates

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

8. Service type

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits

4. Service type

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits

5. Severity or chronicity of an illness

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits

6. Variability in quality

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits

Operations Measures

Medical/Surgical

- Exception processes available for each NQTL requirement and when they may be applied.
- Inter-rater reliability surveys for medical/surgical, mental health and substance use disorder reviewers
- Type and level of documentation (e.g., chart notes, lab results, treatment plans, etc.) the health plan requires from providers during reviews
- duplicate restorations (quarterly)

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- Authorization Denial Rates for MH/SUD
- Inter-rater reliability surveys for medical/surgical, mental health and substance use disorder reviewers
- Internal audit findings related to coverage determination consistency with the plan's medical necessity criteria

Classification: Outpatient - Office Based

NQTL: prior authorization/pre authorization

Definitions

NONE PROVIDED. SEE DOCUMENT REFERENCES

References

- Maryland Medicaid_Parity Analysis Definitions_7.16.20.pdf

Factors

Medical/Surgical

- Appropriateness of utilization
- Excessive utilization
- High variability in cost per episode of care
- Industry Standards
- Not Applicable
- Relative reimbursement rates
- Service type

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- High levels of variation in length of stay
- Least restrictive appropriate level of care
- Not Applicable
- Service type
- Severity or chronicity of an illness
- Variability in quality

Definitions

- **High levels of variation in length of stay:** this is an error and should not be listed
- **Least restrictive appropriate level of care:** Lowest level of care the individual can be safely and effectively treated.
- **Not Applicable:** NQTL does not apply for this classification
- **Service type:** Type of service being requested.
- **Severity or chronicity of an illness:** Does the medication match the severity and chronicity of the illness
- **Variability in quality:** Drugs must be marketed as safe and therapeutically active formulations whose performance is consistent and predictable.

Medical/Surgical

1. Appropriateness of utilization

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

2. Excessive utilization

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

3. High variability in cost per episode of care

Evidentiary Standard

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

1. High levels of variation in length of stay

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Not Applicable

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Not Applicable

2. Least restrictive appropriate level of care

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Not Applicable

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Not Applicable

3. Not Applicable

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

4. Industry Standards

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

5. Not Applicable

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

6. Relative reimbursement rates

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

7. Service type

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Not Applicable

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Not Applicable

4. Service type

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Not Applicable

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Not Applicable

5. Severity or chronicity of an illness

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Not Applicable

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Not Applicable

6. Variability in quality

Evidentiary Standard

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- Not Applicable

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Not Applicable

Operations Measures

Medical/Surgical

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- Authorization Denial Rates for MH/SUD

- Exception processes available for each NQTL requirement and when they may be applied.
- Inter-rater reliability surveys for medical/surgical, mental health and substance use disorder reviewers
- services preauthorized not received (monthly)
- Inter-rater reliability surveys for medical/surgical, mental health and substance use disorder reviewers
- Internal audit findings related to coverage determination consistency with the plan's medical necessity criteria

Classification: Emergency Benefits NQTL: Outlier Management

Definitions

NONE PROVIDED. SEE DOCUMENT REFERENCES

References

- Maryland Medicaid_Parity Analysis Definitions_7.16.20.pdf

Factors

Medical/Surgical

- Appropriateness of utilization
- Industry Standards

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- Not Applicable

Definitions

- **Not Applicable:** NQTL does not apply for this classification

Medical/Surgical

1. **Appropriateness of utilization**

Evidentiary Standard
MCO opted to skip this question

- Not Applicable

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

2. **Industry Standards**

Evidentiary Standard
MCO opted to skip this question

- Not Applicable

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

1. **Not Applicable**

Evidentiary Standard

- Not Applicable

Source

- Not Applicable

Operations Measures

Medical/Surgical

- Exception processes available for each NQTL requirement and when they may be applied.
- Inter-rater reliability surveys for medical/surgical, mental health and substance use disorder reviewers
- Utilization trends

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- NQTL does not apply to any services in this classification

References

- We DO NOT apply any NQTLs to the Emergency and Pharmacy Benefits.docx

Classification: Emergency Benefits NQTL: data collection

Definitions

NONE PROVIDED. SEE DOCUMENT REFERENCES

References

- Maryland Medicaid_Parity Analysis Definitions_7.16.20.pdf

Factors

Medical/Surgical

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- Not Applicable

Definitions

- **Not Applicable:** NQTL does not apply for this classification

Medical/Surgical

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

1. **Not Applicable**

Evidentiary Standard

- Not Applicable

Source

- Not Applicable

Operations Measures

Medical/Surgical

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- NQTL does not apply to any services in this classification
- NQTL does not apply to any services in this classification

Classification: Emergency Benefits

NQTL: medical necessity

Definitions

NONE PROVIDED. SEE DOCUMENT REFERENCES

References

- Maryland Medicaid_Parity Analysis Definitions_7.16.20.pdf

Factors

Medical/Surgical

- Appropriateness of utilization
- Industry Standards
- Lack of clinical efficiency of treatment or service

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- Not Applicable

Definitions

- **Not Applicable:** NQTL does not apply for this classification

Medical/Surgical

1. **Appropriateness of utilization**

Evidentiary Standard
MCO opted to skip this question

- Not Applicable

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

2. **Industry Standards**

Evidentiary Standard
MCO opted to skip this question

- Not Applicable

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

3. **Lack of clinical efficiency of treatment or service**

Evidentiary Standard
MCO opted to skip this question

- Not Applicable

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Medical expert reviews

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

1. **Not Applicable**

Evidentiary Standard

- Not Applicable

Source

- Not Applicable

- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

Operations Measures

Medical/Surgical

- Exception processes available for each NQTL requirement and when they may be applied.
- Inter-rater reliability surveys for medical/surgical, mental health and substance use disorder reviewers

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- NQTL does not apply to any services in this classification
- NQTL does not apply to any services in this classification

Classification: Emergency Benefits NQTL: prior authorization/pre authorization

Definitions

NONE PROVIDED. SEE DOCUMENT REFERENCES

References

- Maryland Medicaid_Parity Analysis Definitions_7.16.20.pdf

Factors

Medical/Surgical

- Appropriateness of utilization
- Industry Standards

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- Not Applicable

Definitions

- **Not Applicable:** NQTL does not apply for this classification

Medical/Surgical

1. **Appropriateness of utilization**

- Evidentiary Standard
MCO opted to skip this question
- Not Applicable

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

2. **Industry Standards**

- Evidentiary Standard
MCO opted to skip this question
- Not Applicable

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Medical expert reviews
- National accreditation standards
- State and Federal requirements

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

1. **Not Applicable**

- Evidentiary Standard
- Not Applicable
- Source
- Not Applicable

Operations Measures

Medical/Surgical

- Exception processes available for each NQTL requirement and when they may be applied.
- Inter-rater reliability surveys for medical/surgical, mental health and substance use disorder reviewers

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- NQTL does not apply to any services in this classification

Classification: Prescription Drugs

NQTL: fail first requirements/step therapy

Definitions

NONE PROVIDED. SEE DOCUMENT REFERENCES

References

- Maryland Medicaid_Parity Analysis Definitions_7.16.20.pdf

Factors

Medical/Surgical

- High cost of care relative to similar therapies
- Not Applicable
- fail first protocol

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- Not Applicable
- fail first protocol

Definitions

- **Not Applicable:** NQTL does not apply for this classification
- **fail first protocol:** fail first protocol

Medical/Surgical

1. High cost of care relative to similar therapies

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

2. Not Applicable

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

3. fail first protocol

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

1. Not Applicable

Evidentiary Standard

- A certain number/type of recognized medical literature and professional standards (including comparative effectiveness studies and clinical trials), and published research studies.
- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- FDA Prescribing information & official compendium
- Not Applicable
- process review(s) for auditing claims data to ensure compliance of a participant's treatment and service plan in conjunction with their prior authorization

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

2. fail first protocol

Evidentiary Standard

- A certain number/type of recognized medical literature and professional standards (including comparative effectiveness studies and clinical trials), and published research studies.
- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- FDA Prescribing information & official compendium
- Not Applicable
- process review(s) for auditing claims data to ensure compliance of a participant's treatment and service plan in

conjunction with their prior authorization

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

Operations Measures

Medical/Surgical

- Exception processes available for each NQTL requirement and when they may be applied.
- Inter-rater reliability surveys for medical/surgical, mental health and substance use disorder reviewers
- Type and level of documentation (e.g., chart notes, lab results, treatment plans, etc.) the health plan requires from providers during reviews
- Utilization trends
- clinical criteria applied based on FDA labeling and requirements
- official compendium internal monitoring of prior authorizations to determine compliance of treatment/service plans for drug efficacy based on concurrent review of treatment plans, service usage and drug utilization

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- Clinical Criteria applied based on FDA labeling and requirements and Official
- Compendium Internal monitoring of prior authorizations to determine compliance of treatment/service plans for drug efficacy based on concurrent review of treatment plans, service usage, and drug utilization
- Type and level of documentation (e.g., chart notes, lab results, treatment plans, etc.) the health plan requires from providers during reviews
- Utilization trends

Classification: Prescription Drugs

NQTL: medical necessity

Definitions

NONE PROVIDED. SEE DOCUMENT REFERENCES

References

- Maryland Medicaid_Parity Analysis Definitions_7.16.20.pdf

Factors

Medical/Surgical

- Appropriateness of utilization
- Efficacy demonstrated in rare conditions only
- High variability in cost per episode of care
- Industry Standards
- Lack of clinical efficiency of treatment or service
- Medical necessity is lacking or is not clearly evident
- Pervasive use of non-FDA approved diagnosis
- clinical appropriateness/medical necessity
- fiscal responsibility/cost effectiveness
- medication status on preferred drug list (PDL) as determined by the preferred drug program via recommendations by the P&T committee

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- clinical appropriateness/medical necessity
- fiscal responsibility/cost effectiveness
- medication status on preferred drug list (PDL) as determined by the preferred drug program via recommendations by the P&T committee

Definitions

- **clinical appropriateness/medical necessity:** identified measures in place to determine the most appropriate treatment option for participants based on the participant's medical status, the placement of the treatment option on the PDL and the treatment option's clinical criteria
- **fiscal responsibility/cost effectiveness:** examination of a drug's actual cost and rebateable status for the State with an emphasis on cost conservation and reduction of waste for the department while still maintaining the accessibility of care to participants
- **medication status on preferred drug list (PDL) as determined by the preferred drug program via recommendations by the P&T committee:** a drug's classification within the PDL which is a list of the dept's preferred and non preferred drugs developed by the departments preferred drug program via recommendations made by the P&T committee

Medical/Surgical

1. Appropriateness of utilization

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- State and Federal requirements

2. Efficacy demonstrated in rare conditions only

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- State and Federal requirements

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

1. clinical appropriateness/medical necessity

Evidentiary Standard

- A certain number/type of recognized medical literature and professional standards (including comparative effectiveness studies and clinical trials), and published research studies.
- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- FDA Prescribing information & official compendium
- process review(s) for auditing claims data to ensure compliance of a participant's treatment and service plan in conjunction with their prior authorization

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews

3. High variability in cost per episode of care

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- State and Federal requirements

4. Industry Standards

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- State and Federal requirements

5. Lack of clinical efficiency of treatment or service

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- State and Federal requirements

6. Medical necessity is lacking or is not clearly evident

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- State and Federal requirements

7. Pervasive use of non-FDA approved diagnosis

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- State and Federal requirements

8. Clinical appropriateness/medical necessity

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- State and Federal requirements

9. Fiscal responsibility/cost effectiveness

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits

- State and Federal requirements

2. Fiscal responsibility/cost effectiveness

Evidentiary Standard

- A certain number/type of recognized medical literature and professional standards (including comparative effectiveness studies and clinical trials), and published research studies.
- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- FDA Prescribing information & official compendium
- process review(s) for auditing claims data to ensure compliance of a participant's treatment and service plan in conjunction with their prior authorization

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- State and Federal requirements

3. Medication status on preferred drug list (PDL) as determined by the preferred drug program via recommendations by the P&T committee

Evidentiary Standard

- A certain number/type of recognized medical literature and professional standards (including comparative effectiveness studies and clinical trials), and published research studies.
- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- FDA Prescribing information & official compendium
- process review(s) for auditing claims data to ensure compliance of a participant's treatment and service plan in conjunction with their prior authorization

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- State and Federal requirements

- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- State and Federal requirements

10. medication status on preferred drug list (PDL) as determined by the preferred drug program via recommendations by the P&T committee

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- State and Federal requirements

Operations Measures

Medical/Surgical

- Exception processes available for each NQTL requirement and when they may be applied.
- Inter-rater reliability surveys for medical/surgical, mental health and substance use disorder reviewers
- Type and level of documentation (e.g., chart notes, lab results, treatment plans, etc.) the health plan requires from providers during reviews
- Utilization trends
- clinical criteria applied based on FDA labeling and requirements
- official compendium internal monitoring of prior authorizations to determine compliance of treatment/service plans for drug efficacy based on concurrent review of treatment plans, service usage and drug utilization

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- Clinical Criteria applied based on FDA labeling and requirements and Official
- Compendium Internal monitoring of prior authorizations to determine compliance of treatment/service plans for drug efficacy based on concurrent review of treatment plans, service usage, and drug utilization
- Type and level of documentation (e.g., chart notes, lab results, treatment plans, etc.) the health plan requires from providers during reviews
- Utilization trends

Classification: Prescription Drugs

NQTL: prior authorization/pre authorization

Definitions

NONE PROVIDED. SEE DOCUMENT REFERENCES

References

- Maryland Medicaid_Parity Analysis Definitions_7.16.20.pdf

Factors

Medical/Surgical

- Appropriateness of utilization
- Efficacy demonstrated in rare conditions only
- High variability in cost per episode of care
- Industry Standards
- Lack of clinical efficiency of treatment or service
- Medical necessity is lacking or is not clearly evident
- Not Applicable
- Pervasive use of non-FDA approved diagnosis
- Severity or chronicity of an illness
- Two Tiered Formulary Design
- clinical appropriateness/medical necessity
- fail first protocol
- medication status on preferred drug list (PDL) as determined by the preferred drug program via recommendations by the P&T committee

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- Lack of clinical efficiency of treatment or service
- Not Applicable
- Severity or chronicity of an illness
- clinical appropriateness/medical necessity
- fail first protocol
- medication status on preferred drug list (PDL) as determined by the preferred drug program via recommendations by the P&T committee

Definitions

- **Lack of clinical efficiency of treatment or service:** treatment that is not based on evidenced based clinical criteria such as InterQual guidelines.
- **Not Applicable:** NQTL does not apply for this classification
- **Severity or chronicity of an illness:** Does the medication match the severity and chronicity of the illness
- **clinical appropriateness/medical necessity:** identified measures in place to determine the most appropriate treatment option for participants based on the participant's medical status, the placement of the treatment option on the PDL and the treatment option's clinical criteria
- **fail first protocol:** fail first protocol
- **medication status on preferred drug list (PDL) as determined by the preferred drug program via recommendations by the P&T committee:** a drug's classification within the PDL which is a list of the dept's preferred and non preferred drugs developed by the departments preferred drug program via recommendations made by the P&T committee

Medical/Surgical

1. Appropriateness of utilization

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

2. Efficacy demonstrated in rare conditions only

Evidentiary Standard

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

1. Lack of clinical efficiency of treatment or service

Evidentiary Standard

- A certain number/type of recognized medical literature and professional standards (including comparative effectiveness studies and clinical trials), and published research studies.
- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- FDA Prescribing information & official compendium
- Not Applicable

Source

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

3. High variability in cost per episode of care

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

4. Industry Standards

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

5. Lack of clinical efficiency of treatment or service

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

6. Medical necessity is lacking or is not clearly evident

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

7. Not Applicable

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

8. Pervasive use of non-FDA approved diagnosis

Evidentiary Standard

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

2. Not Applicable

Evidentiary Standard

- A certain number/type of recognized medical literature and professional standards (including comparative effectiveness studies and clinical trials), and published research studies.
- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- FDA Prescribing information & official compendium
- Not Applicable

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

3. Severity or chronicity of an illness

Evidentiary Standard

- A certain number/type of recognized medical literature and professional standards (including comparative effectiveness studies and clinical trials), and published research studies.
- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- FDA Prescribing information & official compendium
- Not Applicable

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

4. Clinical appropriateness/medical necessity

Evidentiary Standard

- A certain number/type of recognized medical literature and professional standards (including comparative effectiveness studies and clinical trials), and published research studies.
- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- FDA Prescribing information & official compendium
- Not Applicable

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

5. fail first protocol

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

9. **Severity or chronicity of an illness**

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

10. **Two Tiered Formulary Design**

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

11. **Clinical appropriateness/medical necessity**

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

12. **fail first protocol**

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

13. **medication status on preferred drug list (PDL) as determined by the preferred drug program via recommendations by the P&T committee**

Evidentiary Standard

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

- A certain number/type of recognized medical literature and professional standards (including comparative effectiveness studies and clinical trials), and published research studies.
- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- FDA Prescribing information & official compendium
- Not Applicable

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

6. **medication status on preferred drug list (PDL) as determined by the preferred drug program via recommendations by the P&T committee**

Evidentiary Standard

- A certain number/type of recognized medical literature and professional standards (including comparative effectiveness studies and clinical trials), and published research studies.
- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- FDA Prescribing information & official compendium
- Not Applicable

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Medical expert reviews
- Not Applicable
- State and Federal requirements

Operations Measures

Medical/Surgical

- Exception processes available for each NQTL requirement and when they may be applied.
- Inter-rater reliability surveys for medical/surgical, mental health and substance use disorder reviewers
- Type and level of documentation (e.g., chart notes, lab results, treatment plans, etc.) the health plan requires from providers during reviews
- Utilization trends
- clinical criteria applied based on FDA labeling and requirements
- official compendium internal monitoring of prior authorizations to determine compliance of treatment/service plans for drug efficacy based on concurrent review of treatment plans, service usage and drug utilization

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- Clinical Criteria applied based on FDA labeling and requirements and Official
- Compendium Internal monitoring of prior authorizations to determine compliance of treatment/service plans for drug efficacy based on concurrent review of treatment plans, service usage, and drug utilization
- Type and level of documentation (e.g., chart notes, lab results, treatment plans, etc.) the health plan requires from providers during reviews
- Utilization trends

Classification: Prescription Drugs

NQTL: tiered drug formulary

Definitions

NONE PROVIDED. SEE DOCUMENT REFERENCES

References

- Maryland Medicaid_Parity Analysis Definitions_7.16.20.pdf

Factors

Medical/Surgical

- Tiered drug formulary involves groupings of drugs subject to different level of cost share based on generic or brand designation
- clinical appropriateness/medical necessity
- fiscal responsibility/cost effectiveness
- medication status on preferred drug list (PDL) as determined by the preferred drug program via recommendations by the P&T committee

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- clinical appropriateness/medical necessity
- fiscal responsibility/cost effectiveness
- medication status on preferred drug list (PDL) as determined by the preferred drug program via recommendations by the P&T committee

Definitions

- **clinical appropriateness/medical necessity:** identified measures in place to determine the most appropriate treatment option for participants based on the participant's medical status, the placement of the treatment option on the PDL and the treatment option's clinical criteria
- **fiscal responsibility/cost effectiveness:** examination of a drug's actual cost and rebateable status for the State with an emphasis on cost conservation and reduction of waste for the department while still maintaining the accessibility of care to participants
- **medication status on preferred drug list (PDL) as determined by the preferred drug program via recommendations by the P&T committee:** a drug's classification within the PDL which is a list of the dept's preferred and non preferred drugs developed by the departments preferred drug program via recommendations made by the P&T committee

Medical/Surgical

1. Tiered drug formulary involves groupings of drugs subject to different level of cost share based on generic or brand designation

Evidentiary Standard

he MCO skipped this question.

- A certain number/type of recognized medical literature and professional standards (including comparative effectiveness studies and clinical trials), and published research studies.
- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- FDA Prescribing information & official compendium
- Not Applicable

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- State and Federal requirements

2. clinical appropriateness/medical necessity

Evidentiary Standard

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

1. clinical appropriateness/medical necessity

Evidentiary Standard

- A certain number/type of recognized medical literature and professional standards (including comparative effectiveness studies and clinical trials), and published research studies.
- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- FDA Prescribing information & official compendium
- process review(s) for auditing claims data to ensure compliance of a participant's treatment and service plan in conjunction with their prior authorization

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis

2. fiscal responsibility/cost effectiveness

Evidentiary Standard

- A certain number/type of recognized medical literature and professional standards (including comparative effectiveness studies and clinical trials), and published research studies.

- A certain number/type of recognized medical literature and professional standards (including comparative effectiveness studies and clinical trials), and published research studies.
- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- FDA Prescribing information & official compendium
- Not Applicable

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- State and Federal requirements

3. fiscal responsibility/cost effectiveness

Evidentiary Standard

- A certain number/type of recognized medical literature and professional standards (including comparative effectiveness studies and clinical trials), and published research studies.
- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- FDA Prescribing information & official compendium
- Not Applicable

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- State and Federal requirements

4. medication status on preferred drug list (PDL) as determined by the preferred drug program via recommendations by the P&T committee

Evidentiary Standard

- A certain number/type of recognized medical literature and professional standards (including comparative effectiveness studies and clinical trials), and published research studies.
- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- FDA Prescribing information & official compendium
- Not Applicable

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis
- Medical expert reviews
- State and Federal requirements

- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- FDA Prescribing information & official compendium
- process review(s) for auditing claims data to ensure compliance of a participant's treatment and service plan in conjunction with their prior authorization

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis

3. medication status on preferred drug list (PDL) as determined by the preferred drug program via recommendations by the P&T committee

Evidentiary Standard

- A certain number/type of recognized medical literature and professional standards (including comparative effectiveness studies and clinical trials), and published research studies.
- Compliance with professionally recognized treatment guidelines used to define clinically appropriate standards of care such as ASAM criteria or APA treatment guidelines.
- FDA Prescribing information & official compendium
- process review(s) for auditing claims data to ensure compliance of a participant's treatment and service plan in conjunction with their prior authorization

Source

- Evidentiary standards, including any published standards as well as internal plan or issuer standards, relied upon to define the factors triggering the application of an NQTL to benefits
- Internal claims analysis

Operations Measures

Medical/Surgical

- Review of Claims Activity per formulary design
- Type and level of documentation (e.g., chart notes, lab results, treatment plans, etc.) the health plan requires from providers

Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder

- Clinical Criteria applied based on FDA labeling and requirements and Official

during reviews

- Utilization trends
- clinical criteria applied based on FDA labeling and requirements
- official compendium internal monitoring of prior authorizations to determine compliance of treatment/service plans for drug efficacy based on concurrent review of treatment plans, service usage and drug utilization
- Compendium Internal monitoring of prior authorizations to determine compliance of treatment/service plans for drug efficacy based on concurrent review of treatment plans, service usage, and drug utilization
- Type and level of documentation (e.g., chart notes, lab results, treatment plans, etc.) the health plan requires from providers during reviews
- Utilization trends