

# Prior authorization requirements for AmeriHealth Administrators (GeoBlue) State of Washington members

The following levels of care require prior authorization for commercial plans:

## All higher levels of care including:

- Inpatient for behavioral health, substance use and detox
- Residential for behavioral health and substance use
- Partial hospitalization for behavioral health and substance use
- Intensive outpatient for behavioral health and substance use

## All non-traditional outpatient services including:

- Psychological testing
- Outpatient electroconvulsive therapy (ECT)
- Applied behavior analysis (ABA)
- Office-based opioid treatment (OBOT)
- Transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS)

Outpatient counseling and psychiatric services do not need preauthorization. Preauthorization is required only when it is for one of the non-traditional outpatient services listed above.

For services that require preauthorization, obtain authorization *before* services begin. Preauthorization is also necessary for services to continue.

When a provider asks Magellan Healthcare to authorize services, the provider will complete an assessment and share information including:

- Diagnosis
- Current symptoms
- Events that led to an admission
- Thoughts of self-harm or harm to others
- Level of function and the impact on daily living
- Medical and behavioral health history
- Alcohol and/or drug use and any treatments
- Current medicines
- Treatment plan while getting care

- Discharge plans, including coordination of care with providers

Once Magellan Healthcare, Inc. (Magellan) receives the clinical information from the provider, Magellan will use one of the following clinical care guidelines below to make a determination:

- Magellan Healthcare proprietary guidelines
- Milliman Care Guidelines (MCG)
- American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) for substance use treatment requests

Magellan will respond to the requesting provider based on the urgency of the request.

Contact Magellan at 1-800-788-2119 to request prior authorization.