

- Category:** Utilization Management
- Code:** UM 2.0 Attach H CSS
- Subject:** Crisis Stabilization Services (CSS) Level of Care Guidelines
- Purpose:** The purpose of this policy is to describe the criteria used by BHP in medical necessity determinations for CSS.
- Policy:** BHP Care Management (CM) staff use the following level of care guidelines for CSS when completing medical necessity determinations.

Please refer to the enrollee's benefit document for specific information. To the extent there is any inconsistency between this policy and the terms of the enrollee's benefit plan or certificate of coverage, the terms of the enrollee's benefit plan document will govern.

Benefits must be available for healthcare services. Healthcare services must be ordered by a physician, physician assistant, nurse practitioner, or behavioral health practitioner. Healthcare services must be medically necessary, applicable conservative treatments must have been tried, and the most cost-effective alternative must be requested for coverage consideration.

DEFINITIONS

(From Minnesota Statute 256B.0624):

Mental health crisis:

Adult behavioral, emotional, or psychiatric situation which, but for the provision of crisis response services, would likely result in significantly reduced levels of functioning in primary activities of daily living, or in an emergency situation, or in the placement of the recipient in a more restrictive setting, such as, but not limited to, inpatient hospitalization.

Mental Health Crisis Stabilization Services (CSS):

Individualized mental health services provided to a recipient following crisis intervention services which are designed to restore the recipient to their prior level of functioning.

GUIDELINES:

Medical Necessity Criteria - Must satisfy all of I-III, none of IV

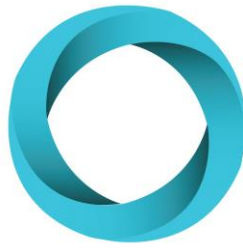
I. Patient Requirements – must satisfy one of the following: A or B

A. Admission - must satisfy all of the following: 1-5

1. Age 18 or older; and

2. Have a serious mental illness as defined in the Minnesota Comprehensive Adult Mental Health Act (Minnesota Statutes 245.461 and 245.486); and

3. The service is requested as an alternative to an acute inpatient hospitalization; whether to avert hospitalization or to avoid continued inpatient hospitalization; and



4. Clinical indications - must satisfy all of the following: a-c

- a. Presence of a *mental health crisis* that cannot be managed in a less intensive psychiatric level of care or imminent risk for acute mental health status deterioration due to the presence and/or treatment of an active psychiatric symptom(s); and
- b. In the written opinion of a licensed mental health professional, or MD, and consultation with the mental health case manager and family members (when available), has the need for CSS that cannot be met with other available community-based services, or is likely to experience a mental health crisis or require a more restrictive setting if intensive rehabilitative services are not provided; and
- c. Can be expected to commence or resume illness management and recovery skills/strategies within one week or less, according to the treatment plan, and requires 24 hour supervised and focused treatment approach to accomplish this.

5. May have any of the following: a or b

- a. Exhibits behaviors that are a danger to self or others but is not likely to act on them acutely; or
- b. Patient is actively engaging in substance abuse within the last 10 days if dual diagnosis is present and active chemical use is a focus of treatment (unless substance is physically unavailable, such as, but not limited to, the patient has been incarcerated or hospitalized) but is not currently experiencing or is at risk for acute withdrawal.

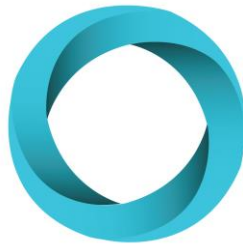
B. Discharge – must satisfy one or more of the following: 1-3

1. Can safely transition to a less intensive setting; or
2. The patient is persistently not attending or refuses to participate or cooperate in the CSS despite repeated staff attempts to engage the patient.
3. Ongoing substance use or abuse that would preclude or decrease the effectiveness of treatment (may merit need for substance abuse evaluation or treatment).

II. Provider requirements – must satisfy all of the following: A-C

- A. The provider must be licensed under Rule 36 per MN Statutes; and
- B. The provider must have DHS approval; and
- C. For PreferredOne members, the provider must be participating with PreferredOne.

III. Program requirements – must satisfy all of the following: A-D



A. Compliant with Minnesota Statute 256B.0624 and Rule 36; and

B. With the patient, develop crisis stabilization and discharge plan within 24 hours of beginning services. The plan, at a minimum, must include all of the following: 1 - 10

1. A list of problems identified in the assessment; and
2. A list of the patient's strengths and resources; and
3. Concrete, measurable short-term goals and tasks to be achieved, including time frames for achievement; and
4. Specific objectives directed toward achieving each goal; and
5. Identified tasks related to transitioning the patient with action steps, dates, and identified responsible persons, individuals, or agencies who will be working with the patient after discharge or transfer, including a forwarding address and telephone number for follow-up contact; and
6. Documentation of the participants involved in the service planning. The patient, if possible, must be a participant; and
7. The plan should include the following:
 - a. Services arranged, including specific providers where applicable, planned frequency and type of services initiated;
 - b. A crisis response action plan if a crisis should occur;
 - c. Frequency and type of services initiated, including a list of providers where applicable.
8. Clear progress notes on outcomes of goals; and
9. The patient must sign the treatment plan. If the patient refuses to approve and sign the plan, the team must note the refusal and the reason(s) for the refusal; and
10. A mental health professional must approve and sign the crisis stabilization treatment plan and give a copy of the plan to the patient.

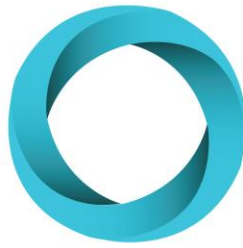
C. Daily documentation is required and must include the components reflected in Minnesota Rule 36V.0170 Subp.6; and

D. Documentation of a targeted discharge date with specified patient outcomes.

IV. Exclusions - none of the following will be considered as sole indications for the CSS setting: A-D

A. Impaired ability to meet academic, family, or employment obligations.

B. Psychometric testing or psychiatric evaluations that could be performed on an outpatient basis.



C. Absence of placement availability in itself (such as, but not limited to, halfway house, foster home, board and care home or other less intensive treatment setting).

D. Patient is diagnosed with insufficient clinical data supporting the diagnosis.

Regulatory / External References: NCQA UM 2.0. Chapter 62M.

1. Minnesota Rule 36 (Minnesota Rules 9520.0500-9520.0670), Version 3/30/06
2. Minnesota Statutes 256B.0624, 245.461, 245.486
3. Variance for Intensive Residential Treatment and Crisis Stabilization Programs. Licensed Under Minnesota Rules Parts 9520.0500 to 9520.0690.
4. Minnesota Department of Human Services. MHCP Provider Manual – Mental Health Services – Adult Crisis Response Services. 2011. Retrieved From http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/idcplg?IdcService=GET_DYNAMIC_CONVERSION&RevisionSelectionMethod=LatestReleased&dDocName=id_058038
5. Minnesota Department of Human Services. MHCP Provider Manual – Mental Health Services – Children’s Mental Health Crisis Response Services. 2011. Retrieved from http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/idcplg?IdcService=GET_DYNAMIC_CONVERSION&RevisionSelectionMethod=LatestReleased&dDocName=id_058041

Internal References: Richard Sethre PsyD LP, Quinn McBreen LADC

Source: PreferredOne, BHP

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