

Title:	Intake Admission Criteria				
Policy Number:	401	Effective Date:	06/13	Next Review Date:	06/23

POLICY: It is the policy of Behavioral Health Group (BHG) to admit patients to treatment after it has been determined that the patient meets criteria demonstrating the medical necessity of the treatment modality being offered. For BHG Opioid Treatment programs, the patient must meet all federal and state-specific criteria for admission. Qualified clinical personnel will use accepted medical and diagnostic criteria such as those listed in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual for Mental Disorders (DSM-V) to assess whether the individual meets criteria for a given Substance Use Disorder, and criteria such as the ASAM Criteria to determine the level of care appropriate for a patient.

SCOPE: All BHG team members

1. Minimum admission standards must be assessed and verified.
2. For BHG Opioid Treatment Programs, the following additionally apply:
 - a. All individuals presenting for treatment must be 18 years of age. The Medical Director or program provider must diagnose the appropriate substance use disorder and document that diagnosis.
 - b. The Medical Director or program provider will verify that the patient voluntarily chooses maintenance treatment. The Medical Director or an authorized clinical team member will clearly and adequately explain all relevant information concerning the use of medication assisted treatment and will ensure the patient provides informed consent.
 - c. The individual must have a history of addiction and current physiologic dependence of at least one (1) year (or longer as per state specific regulations) before being admitted to treatment.
 - d. The Medical Director or program provider will determine current physiological dependence, assess signs and symptoms of withdrawal, and consider the results of an onsite urine drug screen and IV track marks, if applicable.
 - e. The absence of current physiological dependence may not be an exclusion criterion if the admission is clinically justified, and the patient has a one (1) year history of addiction or longer per state specific regulations.

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- f. The Medical Director or program provider must authorize all admissions based on an independent assessment of each patient's needs as indicated by the Admission Physical Examination.
- g. The Medical Director or program provider will also review the *Health Questionnaire* which includes a section on *Cardiac Risk Factors*, the *Adult Nutritional Screening*, and *Suicide Risk Assessment*.
- h. The Medical Director or program provider will document in a thorough admission note, the justification for admission, findings from the Admission Physical Examination, and the overall assessment of the patient and any recommendations.
- i. If clinically appropriate, the Medical Director or program provider may waive the requirement of one (1) year history of addiction for patients released from penal institutions (within six (6) months of their release,) for pregnant patients (pregnancy must be verified,) and for previously treated patients for up to two (2) years after discharge.

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Related Policy and Procedures: [Prospective Patient Inquiry Program](#), [History and Physical Examination](#), [Nursing Admission Medical History](#)

Standards:

Review Date:

Revision History: 07/18, 02/21, 06/22

Authorized By: