

## Adult Behavioral Health Therapeutic Home Medical Necessity Criteria

### Lines of Business:

- All  Medicare  Marketplace  
 Medicaid  Medicare-Medicaid Programs (MMP)  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### I. DEFINITION(S)

Molina Healthcare has adopted the definitions that are located on AHCCCS' website:

<https://azahcccs.gov/Resources/Downloads/ContractAndPolicyDictionary.pdf>

#### **ADULT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH THERAPEUTIC HOME (ABHTH)**

A licensed residence that provides behavioral health treatment, which maximizes the ability of an individual experiencing behavioral health symptoms to live and participate in the community and to function in an independent manner that includes assistance in the self-administration of medication and any ancillary services (such as living skills and health promotion) indicated by the member's Treatment Plan, as appropriate.

#### **ADULT RECOVERY TEAM (ART)**

A group of individuals that follows the Nine Guiding Principles for Recovery-Oriented Adult Behavioral Health Services and Systems. Working in collaboration and are actively involved in an individual's assessment, service planning and service delivery.

#### **COLLABORATING HEALTH CARE INSTITUTION (CHI)**

A health care institution licensed to provide outpatient behavioral health services that has a written agreement with an adult behavioral health therapeutic home or a behavioral health respite home to:

- a. Coordinate behavioral health services provided to a resident at the adult behavioral health therapeutic home or a recipient at a behavioral health respite home, and
- b. Work with the provider to ensure a resident at the adult behavioral health therapeutic home or a recipient at a behavioral health respite home receives behavioral health services according to the resident's treatment plan. A.A.C. R9-10-101 (51.)

#### **TREATMENT PLAN**

For the purposes of this policy, a complete written description of all services to be provided by ABHTH. The Treatment Plan shall be based on the intake assessments and outpatient Service Plan.

### II. PURPOSE

To define the admission, exclusionary and continued stay medical necessity criteria for ABHTH.

### III. POLICY

Molina provides behavioral health treatment in a licensed residence that maximizes the ability of the individual experiencing behavioral health symptoms to live and participate

in the community and to function in an independent manner.

ABHTH is a residential setting in the community that provides daily behavioral interventions within a licensed family setting. This service is designed to maximize the member's ability to live and participate in the community and to function independently, including assistance in the self-administration of medication and any ancillary services (such as living skills and health promotion) indicated by the member's Service Plan and/or Treatment Plan as appropriate.

Programmatic support is available to the ABHTH Providers 24 hours per day, seven days per week by the CHI. Care and services provided in an ABHTH are based on a per diem rate (24-hour day), require prior and continued authorization, and do not include room and board (Arizona State Plan for Medicaid). Contractors shall refer to ACOM Policy 414 for information on timeframes and requirements regarding prior authorizations.

ABHTH Providers shall adhere to this Policy as well as procedure requirements as specified in A.A.C. R9-10-1801 et. Seq and the Arizona State Plan for Medicaid.

## **A. CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION**

### 1. Criteria for Admission:

- a. The recommendation for ABHTH shall come through the ART process,
- b. Following an Assessment by a licensed BHP, the member has been diagnosed with a behavioral health condition which reflects the symptoms and behaviors necessary for a request for ABHTH,
- c. As a result of the behavioral health condition, there is evidence that the member has recently (within the past 90 days) had a disturbance of mood, thought, or behavior which renders the member incapable of independent or age-appropriate self-care or self-regulation. This moderate functional and/or psychosocial impairment per Assessment by a BHP:
  - i. Cannot be reasonably expected to improve in response to a less intensive level of care, and
  - ii. Does not require or meet clinical criteria for a higher level of care, or
  - iii. Demonstrates that appropriate treatment in a less restrictive environment has not been successful or is not available, therefore warranting a higher level of care.
- d. At time of admission to an ABHTH, in participation with the Health Care Decision Maker and all relevant stakeholders, there is a documented plan for discharge which includes:
  - i. Tentative disposition/living arrangement identified, and
  - ii. Recommendations for aftercare treatment based upon treatment goals.

## **B. EXCLUSIONARY CRITERIA**

Admission to an ABHTH shall not be used as a substitute for the following:

1. An alternative to detention or incarceration.
2. As a means to ensure community safety in an individual exhibiting primarily conduct disordered behaviors.
3. As a means of providing safe housing, shelter, supervision or permanent placement.
4. A behavioral health intervention when other less restrictive alternatives are available and meet the member's treatment needs, including situations when the member/Health Care Decision Maker is unwilling to participate in the less restrictive alternative.

## **C. EXPECTED TREATMENT OUTCOMES**

1. Treatment outcomes shall align with:
  - a. The Nine Guiding Principles for Recovery-Oriented Adult Behavioral Health Services and Systems as specified in AMPM Policy 100, and
  - b. The member's individualized physical, behavioral, and developmentally appropriate needs.
2. Treatment goals for members placed in an ABHTH shall be:
  - a. Specific to the member's behavioral health condition that warranted treatment,
  - b. Measurable and achievable,
  - c. Unable to be met in a less restrictive environment,
  - d. Based on the member's unique needs,
  - e. Inclusive of input from the member's family/Health Care Decision-Maker and Designated Representative's choices where applicable, and
  - f. Supportive of the member's improved or sustained functioning and integration into the community.
3. Active treatment with the services available at this level of care can reasonably be expected to:
  - a. Improve the member's condition in order to achieve discharge from the ABHTH at the earliest possible time, and
  - b. Facilitate the member's return to primarily outpatient care in a nontherapeutic/non-licensed setting.

## **D. CRITERIA FOR CONTINUED STAY**

1. All the following shall be met:
  - a. The member continues to meet diagnostic threshold for the behavioral health condition that warranted admission to ABHTH,
  - b. The member continues to demonstrate (within the last 90 days) moderate functional or psychosocial impairment as a result of the behavioral health condition, as identified through disturbances of mood, thought, or behavior, which substantially impairs independent or appropriate self-care or self-regulation,
  - c. Active treatment is reducing the severity of disturbances of mood, thought, or behaviors, which were identified as reasons for admission to ABHTH, and treatment at the ABHTH is empowering the member to gain skills to successfully function in the community,
  - d. There is an expectation that continued treatment at the ABHTH shall improve the member's condition so that this type of service shall no longer be needed, and
  - e. The ART is meeting at least monthly to review progress and has revised the Treatment Plan and/or Service Plan to respond to any lack of progress.

## **E. CRITERIA FOR DISCHARGE**

1. Sufficient symptom or behavior relief is achieved as evidenced by completion of the ABHTH treatment goals.
2. The member's functional capacity is improved, and the member can be safely cared for in a less restrictive level of care.
3. The member can participate in needed monitoring and follow-up services or a Provider is available to provide monitoring in a less restrictive level of care.
4. Appropriate services, Providers, and supports are available to meet the member's current behavioral health needs at a less restrictive level of care.
5. There is no evidence to indicate that continued treatment in an ABHTH would improve member's clinical outcome.
6. There is potential risk that continued stay in an ABHTH may precipitate regression or decompensation of member's condition.

## **F. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

1. Molina Healthcare shall monitor, and report ABHTH bed utilization as specified in ACOM Policy 415, Attachment G or as requested by AHCCCS.
2. Molina Healthcare shall report medical necessity criteria for admission, continued stay, and discharge for prior approval as specified in Contract.