



Tip Tuesday

We here at Aetna Better Health value your partnership and welcome the opportunity to learn from you and hear your feedback as professionals who have long-standing expertise in service to communities.

The bottom line is - - - We are here to support you. We hope to provide value and guidance in the navigation of the Medicaid system. Additionally, we want to -- alongside you-- provide services to our men, women, children, and families to achieve common positive health and wellness goals.

We are in an active campaign to streamline our network communication to you. We have moved to a web-based application allowing us to share more information with you as needed. Please take a moment to confirm that all your information is correct, if you don't currently receive our notices please take just a minute to sign up. [Sign up here!](#)

Aetna Better Health of Kentucky (ABHKY) covers short-term stays in an Institution for Mental Disease (IMD), including an inpatient stay for psychiatric or substance-use disorder, for enrollees ages 21 to 64 permitted by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. ABHKY does not require an enrollee to receive services in an IMD. The Social Security Act at 42 CFR 435.1010 defines an Institution for Mental Disease (IMD) as an institution with more than 16 beds that primarily engages in the diagnosis, treatment, or care of persons with mental diseases. In 2016, the Medicaid and CHIP Managed Care Final Rule 42 CFR 438.6€ permits states to pay managed care organizations (MCOs) for individuals age 21 to 64 who are a patient in an IMD. The coverage is available only for short-term stays in an IMD. A short-term stay is no more than 15 days. In addition, the services provided would have to meet 42 C.F.R. Part 438.3(e)(2) as 'in lieu of services' that are medically appropriate, cost effective substitutes for the services that are otherwise available. In 2018, Kentucky MCOs were authorized by the Kentucky Department for Medicaid Services (DMS), of their option to authorize coverage for short term stays.

These services are subject to prior authorization. The following are exceptions to this requirement:

- Emergent services
- Kentucky DMS COVID-19 prior authorization requirement exclusions

ABHKY reimburses for Psychiatric IMD services as follows:

- No more than 15 days per calendar month for inpatient psychiatric treatment

****INSERT PR CONTACT LIST****