

## Clinical Practice Guidelines

### Overview

Treatment record reviews are performed on a regular basis to ensure that Carelon members are receiving safe, evidenced-based, high-quality care. The tool used for provider record reviews is proprietary and developed by Carelon specifically for in-network providers. The tool assesses provider documentation from assessment to discharge, and the framework is based on accreditation standards, clinical practice guidelines, and best practice in behavioral health and substance use disorder treatment. The National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) standards, Utilization Review Accreditation Commission (URAC) standards, and recognized professional associations in the field of psychiatry and psychology guided development of the Carelon tool. The tool includes measurement of provider adherence to the in-network provider services agreement between the provider and Carelon.

### Treatment Record Review Section

#### Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPGs)

CPGs are written documents generally developed by professional organizations that establish standards backed by strong scientific evidence. Carelon adopts both CPGs (scientifically based by research) and clinical practice resources (backed by consensus of subject matter experts) annually. Carelon encourages our credentialed providers to view the adopted guidelines below and incorporate into your practice as appropriate.

#### Rationale for why questions in this section are monitored

NCQA standard QI 9 requires accredited managed behavioral health organizations (MBHOs) to adopt at least two adult and one child/adolescent CPG each year. In addition to the adoption of at least three clinical practice guidelines, MBHOs are required to measure provider performance against the adopted standards.

Carelon will promote the use of three clinical practice guidelines related to the diagnosis of Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder and Schizophrenia and which are prevalent conditions in the Carelon membership. The third CPG is related to practice guidelines for the psychiatric evaluation of adults. **The following HEDIS® measures will be used to monitor adherence to the clinical practice guidelines: Follow-Up Care for Children Prescribed ADHD Medication (ADD), Adherence to Antipsychotic Medications for Individuals with Schizophrenia (SAA), Diabetes Screening for People with Schizophrenia or Bipolar Disorder (SSD) and Follow-Up after Hospitalization for Mental Illness (FUH).**

#### Suggestions for meeting the standard

Clinical practice guidelines and resources are audited when applicable. Considerations for auditing, including diagnosis and age requirements, must be met to be included in the audit. For 2022, three clinical practice guidelines/resources were adopted:

- [Practice Guideline for the Treatment of Patients with Schizophrenia – Third Edition](#)
- [ADHD Clinical Practice Guidelines for the Diagnosis, Evaluation, and Treatment of ADHD in Children and Adolescents](#)
- [Practice Guidelines for the Psychiatric Evaluation of Adults, Third Edition](#)