

Substance Use Disorder Authorization Request Checklist

The following is a list of general information needed for all substance use disorder (SUD) authorization requests.

Please note: Additional information may be requested based on each member's unique presentation.

Detox: ASAM* 4.0, 3.7

Initial requests

Basic information for all levels of care (LOC):

- Member demographics, LOC, diagnoses, start date and number of days requested
- Circumstance(s) that brought member to this LOC at this time: Is the member stepping down from another LOC?

Substance use information for all LOC:

- Specific substance(s) used, date of last use, amount/frequency of use and duration of use
- Urine drug screen (UDS)/blood alcohol level (BAL) results, as applicable

Information specific to withdrawal management LOC (4.0, 3.7):

- Vitals
- Medications: withdrawal management regimen
- Clinical institute of withdrawal assessment (CIWA)/clinical opiate withdrawal scale (COWS) scores, as applicable
- D1: Withdrawal symptoms and history of withdrawal seizures/delirium tremors
- D2: Chronic/acute medical issues and assessment of stability of medical issues; Is the member pregnant?
- D3: Behavioral health diagnoses and assessment of stability of behavioral health issues

Initial discharge planning for all LOC:

- Anticipated discharge disposition and LOC
- Potential barriers to discharge

Continued stay requests: ASAM 4.0, 3.7

Information provided for withdrawal management LOC continued stay requests should include the following (**updated since the last review date**):

- Vitals, current medication administration record, CIWA/COWS scores, withdrawal symptoms and number of days requested

*ASAM stands for the American Society for Addiction Medicine.



SUD residential: ASAM 3.5, 3.3, 3.1

Initial requests

Basic information for all LOC:

Member demographics, LOC, diagnoses, start date and number of days requested

Circumstance(s) that brought member to this LOC at this time: Is the member stepping down from another LOC?

Substance use information for all LOC:

Specific substance(s) used, date of last use, amount/frequency of use and duration of use
UDS/BAL results (as applicable)

ASAM dimensions information for residential LOC (3.5, 3.3, 3.1):

D1: Withdrawal symptoms and medication-assisted treatment (as applicable)

D2: Chronic/acute medical issues, medical prescriptions and pregnancy status

D3: Behavioral health diagnoses, current outpatient treatment, psychotropic medications, active suicidal ideation, homicidal ideation, auditory hallucinations and visual hallucinations

Specific to 3.3: Does the member have a prior diagnosis of traumatic brain injury or intellectual or developmental disabilities?

D4: Stage of change and if member is mandated to treatment

D5: Date and duration of longest period of abstinence, level of current cravings, level of insight, awareness of potential triggers, history of SUD treatment episodes of care (year, length of time and outcome)

D6: Location of current living situation and names/relationships of cohabitants, substance use status of cohabitants, sober supports, current employment, current legal issues and barriers to recovery

Initial discharge planning for all LOC:

Anticipated discharge disposition and LOC

Potential barriers to discharge

Continued stay requests: ASAM 3.5, 3.3, and 3.1

Information provided for residential LOC continued stay requests should include the following (updated since the last review date):

Updates to all ASAM dimensions and anticipated discharge plan

Level of engagement in treatment, progress (or lack thereof) toward identified goals, and specific objectives requiring additional days

Number of days requested

