

Provider Education

Follow-Up After Hospitalization for Mental Illness (FUH)

Did you know?

About 20 percent of American adults have a mental health disorder and about five percent are diagnosed with a serious mental illness each year. Millions of people are also hospitalized each year due to mental illness.

Regular follow-up appointments with a mental health provider are important after being discharged from inpatient care for a mental disorder. Patients are more vulnerable after being discharged from the hospital. A timely visit with a mental health provider after discharge is recommended to ensure extended care after hospitalization and to reinforce compliance with medical treatment.

We encourage patients to complete follow-up visits with a mental health provider within seven days of discharge.

Follow-up visits help:

- Detect early post-hospitalization reactions or medication problems
- Promote and provide continuing care
- Reduce hospital readmissions

When should a follow-up visit be scheduled?

- An outpatient visit with a mental health provider should be scheduled within seven days after discharge
- Refer your patients to get follow-up care with a social worker, counselor, family therapist, psychologist, psychiatrist, or advanced practice psychiatric nurse
- Please help schedule this visit for your patients prior to discharge if possible
- For any medications that are part of the discharge plan, if required, initiate the prior authorization process before discharge to increase access to and probability of compliance with prescriptions

Procedure	Incentive Amount*	Performance Criteria
One Follow-Up Visit within Seven Days After Discharge	Medicaid \$40.00	Incentive paid to the servicing provider upon completion of follow-up with a mental health provider within seven days after discharge from hospital, within the HEDIS® guidelines
One Follow-Up Visit within 30 Days After Discharge	Medicaid \$20.00 MMAI \$50.00	Incentive paid to the servicing provider upon completion of follow-up with a mental health provider within 30 days after discharge from hospital, within the HEDIS® guidelines



Contact your Provider Relations Specialist with any questions or call Meridian at: **888-437-0606**. To refer a patient for behavioral health services, call Meridian at: **866-796-1167**



Remember to visit the Provider Portal to enter relevant HEDIS® information or to refer a patient for behavioral health services: **provider.ilmeridian.com**

**Incentive program terms are subject to change at Meridian's discretion. Meridian will notify providers of any changes or incentive program alterations.
Source: National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)*