



WA State HB 2642 was passed with the legislative intent to remove barriers individuals may face in accessing SUD treatment. HB 2642 impacts our Commercial, Medicaid and Exchange business. Optum would like to minimize the disruption these legislative changes may present to your facility by going over a few key points in HB 2642, and how the authorization request process will look different starting 1/1/21. As always agencies are advised to seek the advice of their own legal counsel around legislative interpretation and implementation.

2642 removes the need to obtain prior authorization for initial Substance Use Disorder admissions to withdrawal management (WM), Inpatient (IP) and residential treatment facilities (RTF) for WA residents. Optum will automatically approve placement to withdrawal management for three days, and two business days excluding weekends and Washington State Holidays for IP and RTF.

**What will be for required SUD Facilities and Optum:**

- Withdrawal Management, Inpatient and Residential Treatment facilities *must* notify Optum of our member's admission as soon as practicable after admission but no later than 24-hours.
- An initial assessment and initial treatment plan *must* be provided to Optum within three days of admission for WM facilities, and two business days, excluding weekends and Washington State Holidays, for IP and RTF.
- If a member will need care beyond the initial WM two-day or IP/RTF three business day authorization period, a facility must submit clinical information to Optum, using the ASAM six dimensions to support the need for the members continued stay.
- Optum will provide a written decision on your concurrent review request within one business day; or cover the cost of a members continued stay until a written response on the utilization management decision is sent to the agency.
- If a member does not meet medical necessity criteria for a continued stay Optum will not be responsible for payments after this time period, subject to the conclusion of a filed appeal of the adverse benefit determination.
- Optum will work with SUD facilities to help make arrangements for a seamless transfer of care for members who require a transfer to a different facility or lower level of care after completing their treatment plan. The stay at the members current treating facility will be covered by Optum until the seamless transfer of care to a treatment facility is complete.