

Follow up after hospitalization for mental illness (FUH)

The percentage of discharges for patients 6 years of age and older, hospitalized for treatment of selected mental health illness or intentional self-harm diagnoses and who had a follow-up appointment with a mental health provider.

Lines of Business Affected: ● Medicaid



Two rates are reported:

- The percentage of discharges in which the patient received follow up care within 30 days after discharge.
- The percentage of discharges in which the patient received follow up care within 7 days of discharge.

The denominator for this measure is based on discharges, not patients. If patients have more than one discharge, include all discharges on or between January 1st and December 1st of the measurement year.

Why It Matters

Why is the HEDIS FUH measure important?

- Evidence suggests that individuals who receive follow-up care after a psychiatric hospitalization is less likely to readmit to an inpatient facility. The ability to provide continuity of care can result in better mental health outcomes and support a patient's return to baseline functioning in a less-restrictive level of care.

Any of the following meet criteria for a follow up visit (with a mental health provider)

- Outpatient visit
- Community mental health center visit
- Electroconvulsive therapy
- Telehealth/Telephone visit
- An observation visits
- Transitional care management services
- Behavioral healthcare setting
- Psychiatric collaborative care management



Who can complete the FUH Assessment?

Visit must be with a licensed mental health provider:

- Psychiatrist
- Psychologist
- Psychiatric/Mental Health RN
- Licensed Marital & Family Therapist (LMFT)
- Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW)
- Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC)
- Licensed Master of Social Work (LMSW)
- Community Mental Health Center (CMHC)

Visit can't occur on same day of discharge

Unacceptable documentation

The following notations are examples documentation that is **not acceptable** for FUH:

- Follow up visits to a PCP or non-mental health provider
- Outpatient visits on the day of discharge
- Follow up visits outside the MY

Tips and Best Practices to close FUH Care Gap

- Schedule follow up appointments prior to discharge and include the date and time on discharge instructions
- FUH appointment should be used as a post-stabilization assessment, not treatment appointment
- Utilize Tele-health/virtual options offered thru the health plans
- Work to engage patients in the Case Management program that health plan offers
- Assist patients to schedule both the 7 days and 30 day follow up appointments with their mental health care provider to include transportation if needed. Appointments can be scheduled online at mtm.mtmlink.net

If you need help locating a health care provider or feel that your patient could benefit from Care Management Services, please call to speak with our staff.

Contact Provider Partnership:

[HomeStateHealth.com](https://www.HomeStateHealth.com)

Home State: 1-855-694-4663 / TTY: 711

[HomeStateHealth.com](https://www.HomeStateHealth.com)

Show Me Healthy Kids: 1-877-236-1020 / TTY: 711

[Ambetter.HomeStateHealth.com](https://www.Ambetter.HomeStateHealth.com)

Ambetter: 1-855-650-3789 TTY: 1-877-250-6113

[Wellcare.com](https://www.Wellcare.com)

Wellcare: MAPD 1-833-444-9088 / D-SNP: 1-833-444-9089 / TTY: 711

[Wellcare.com/en/Missouri](https://www.Wellcare.com/en/Missouri)

Wellcare By Allwell: MAPD 1-855-766-1452 / D-SNP: 1-833-298-3361 / TTY:711