



---

## Clinical Coverage Guideline: Short Inpatient Hospital Stays (Allwell and Ambetter)

Ambetter from Home State Health and Allwell from Home State Health are implementing the following policy for **Short Inpatient Hospital Stays effective September 1, 2020.**

### Summary of Policy:

Observation care is a well-defined set of specific, clinically appropriate services, which include ongoing short term treatment, assessment, and reassessment before a decision can be made regarding whether patients will require further treatment as hospital inpatients or if they are able to be discharged from the hospital.

### What does this mean for providers?

It is the policy of health plans affiliated with Centene Corporation® that inpatient hospital stays (vs. observation) of 2 days or less are medically necessary for one of the following indications:

Admission is for a procedure on the CMS Inpatient Only List, (addendum E found here);

Admission to an intermediate or intensive care unit level of care (including neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) considered medically necessary per a nationally-recognized clinical decision support tool;

Unexpected death during the admission;

Departure against medical advice from a medically necessary (per a nationally-recognized clinical decision support tool) inpatient stay;

Transferred from another facility, with a medically necessary (per a nationally-recognized clinical decision support tool) total length of stay greater than 2 days;

Election of hospice care in lieu of continued treatment in hospital.

**Note: The policy at the link below will provide background and references for medical record review.**

Review the complete policy at:

<https://www.homestatehealth.com/providers/tools-resources/clinical-payment-policies.html>

We are here to help. If you need further information, please contact Provider Services at the numbers below.

### Contact Provider Partnership:

---

**HomeStateHealth.com**

**Allwell.HomeStateHealth.com**

**Ambetter.HomeStateHealth.com**

**Home State: 1-855-694-4663**

**MAPD: 1-855-766-1452 / D-SNP: 1-833-298-3361 / TTY:711**

**Ambetter: 1-855-650-3789 TTY/TDD: 1-877-250-6113**