## Children's Hospital and Health System Chorus Community Health Plans Policy and Procedure



# **Medical Utilization Management Policy**

# SUBJECT: DRUG TESTING FOR SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS AND CHRONIC PAIN TREATMENT

### INCLUDED PRODUCT(S):

| Medicaid            | Individual and Family |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| BadgerCare Plus     | Commercial            |
| 🛛 Care4Kids Program | Marketplace           |

#### PURPOSE OR DESCRIPTION:

The purpose of this policy is to define parameters for the medically necessary use of drug testing.

#### POLICY:

General considerations:

- 1. Qualitative (aka presumptive) and quantitative (aka definitive) drug testing can be used when medically necessary to identify the presence or absence of drugs and specific medications.
- 2. Testing frequency should be at the minimum timing appropriate for clinical needs.
  - a. When applicable, the frequency should be determined by the risk of abuse. The use of a validated screening tool is recommended, e.g. Opiod Risk Tool (ORT)
- 3. Clinical documentation must be available to support the type and frequency of testing.

- a. For quantitative (definitive) urine drug testing, the reasons for testing each drug class should be documented.
- 4. This policy excludes drug testing for employment screening, licensing evaluations, monitoring for medicolegal purposes, and cancer associated pain treatment.

Testing frequency:

- 1. For chronic pain management:
  - a. Qualitative (presumptive) testing:
    - i. Members who are at low risk of abuse: maximum of 2 tests per year
    - ii. Members who are at moderate risk of abuse: maximum of 1 test per 3 months
    - iii. Members who are at high risk of abuse: maximum of 1 test per month
    - iv. Members who are at unusually high risk of abuse: maximum of 1 test per week for four weeks. Any higher frequency or longer duration would be considered substance abuse or dependence treatment.
  - b. Quantitative (definitive) testing:
    - i. The use of quantitative urine drug testing in the treatment of chronic pain is considered not medically necessary, except in rare circumstances.
    - ii. Reasons for exceptions must be thoroughly documented in the clinical record
- 2. For substance abuse or dependence treatment (including medication assisted treatment (MAT)):
  - a. Qualitative (presumptive) testing:
    - i. Members who are at low risk and/or have abstained for  $\geq$  90 days: maximum of 2 tests per month
    - ii. Members who are at moderate risk and/or have abstained between 30 90 days: maximum of 1 test per week
    - iii. Members who are at high risk and/or have abstained for  $\leq$  30 days: maximum of 3 tests per week
  - b. Quantitative (Definitive) testing:
    - i. Members who are at low risk and/or have abstained for  $\geq$  90 days: maximum of 1 test per month
    - ii. Members who are at moderate risk and/or have abstained between 30 90 days: maximum of 3 tests per month
    - iii. Members who are at high risk and/or have abstained for  $\leq$  30 days: maximum of 1 test per week

## **REFERENCES**

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