

Oklahoma Health Care Authority

The Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA) values your feedback and input. It is very important that you provide your comments regarding the proposed rule change by the comment due date. Comments can be submitted on the OHCA's [Proposed Changes Blog](#).

OHCA COMMENT DUE DATE: August 31, 2022

The proposed policy is an Emergency Rule. The proposed policy was presented at the July 5, 2022, Tribal Consultation. Additionally, this proposed change will be presented to the Medical Advisory Committee on September 8, 2022, and the OHCA Board of Directors on September 21, 2022.

REFERENCE: APA WF 22-12

SUMMARY:

Staff Ratios and Staff Licensing Requirements for Out-of-State Psychiatric Providers – The proposed rule changes will allow out-of-state inpatient psychiatric providers to utilize the staffing ratios and staff licensing requirements of the state in which the facility/provider is located.

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

The Oklahoma Health Care Authority Act, Section 5007 (C)(2) of Title 63 of Oklahoma Statutes; The Oklahoma Health Care Authority Board

RULE IMPACT STATEMENT:

**STATE OF OKLAHOMA
OKLAHOMA HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY**

SUBJECT: Rule Impact Statement
APA WF # 22-12

A. Brief description of the purpose of the rule:

The proposed will allow out-of-state inpatient psychiatric providers to utilize the staffing ratios and staff licensing requirements of the state in which the facility/provider is located.

B. A description of the classes of persons who most likely will be affected by the proposed rule, including classes that will bear the cost of the proposed rule, and any information on cost impacts received by the agency from any private or public entities:

No classes of persons will be affected by the proposed rule.

C. A description of the classes of persons who will benefit from the proposed rule:

The proposed rule changes will benefit out-of-state inpatient psychiatric providers who will now have the flexibility to utilize the staff ratios and staff licensing requirements of the state in which the facility/provider is located, provided that the staff ratio and staff licensing requirements are sufficient to ensure patient safety and patients have reasonable and prompt access to services. Additionally, the proposed rule changes will ensure that Service Quality Reviews (SQR) performed by the OHCA, or designated agent reflect this flexibility and avoid full or partial recoupment of paid claims from out-of-state inpatient psychiatric providers who are currently required to meet Oklahoma's staffing ratios and staff licensing requirements

The proposed rule changes will benefit SoonerCare members requiring out-of-state inpatient psychiatric placement. Members will have increased access to out-of-state inpatient psychiatric providers, who will now be able to adhere to their state staff ratios and staff licensing requirements, provided that the state's staff ratios and licensing requirements safeguard patient safety.

- D. A description of the probable economic impact of the proposed rule upon the affected classes of persons or political subdivisions, including a listing of all fee changes and, whenever possible, a separate justification for each fee change:

There is no economic impact and there are no fee changes associated with the rule change for the above classes of persons or any political subdivision.

- E. The probable costs and benefits to the agency and to any other agency of the implementation and enforcement of the proposed rule, the source of revenue to be used for implementation and enforcement of the proposed rule, and any anticipated effect on state revenues, including a projected net loss or gain in such revenues if it can be projected by the agency:

The proposed rule changes will be budget neutral.

- F. A determination of whether implementation of the proposed rule will have an economic impact on any political subdivisions or require their cooperation in implementing or enforcing the rule:

The proposed rule will not have an economic impact on any political subdivisions or require their cooperation in implementing or enforcing the rule.

- G. A determination of whether implementation of the proposed rule will have an adverse effect on small business as provided by the Oklahoma Small Business Regulatory Flexibility Act:

The proposed rule will not have an adverse effect on small businesses as provided by the Oklahoma Small Business Regulatory Flexibility Act.

- H. An explanation of the measures the agency has taken to minimize compliance costs and a determination of whether there are less costly or non-regulatory methods or less intrusive methods for achieving the purpose of the proposed rule:

The Agency has taken measures to determine that there is no less costly or non-regulatory method or less intrusive method for achieving the purpose of the proposed rule.

- I. A determination of the effect of the proposed rule on the public health, safety, and environment and, if the proposed rule is designed to reduce significant risks to the public health, safety, and environment, an explanation of the nature of the risk and to what extent the proposed rule will reduce the risk:

The proposed rule should have no effect on the public health, safety, and environment.

- J. A determination of any detrimental effect on the public health, safety, and environment if the proposed rule is not implemented:

The Agency does not anticipate any detrimental effect on the public health, safety, or environment if the proposed rule changes are not implemented.

- K. The date the rule impact statement was prepared and if modified, the date modified:

Prepared: June 22, 2022
Modified: June 29, 2022

RULE TEXT

TITLE 317. OKLAHOMA HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY CHAPTER 30. MEDICAL PROVIDERS-FEE FOR SERVICE

SUBCHAPTER 5. INDIVIDUAL PROVIDERS AND SPECIALTIES

PART 6. INPATIENT PSYCHIATRIC AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER SERVICES

317:30-5-95. General provisions and eligible providers

(a) **Eligible settings for inpatient psychiatric services.** The following individuals may receive SoonerCare-reimbursable inpatient psychiatric services in the following eligible settings:

(1) Individuals under twenty-one (21) years of age, in accordance with OAC 317:30-5-95.23, may receive SoonerCare-reimbursable inpatient psychiatric services in a psychiatric unit of a general hospital, a psychiatric hospital, or a PRTF; and may receive chemical dependency detoxification/withdrawal management services in a psychiatric unit of a general hospital or in a psychiatric hospital.

(2) Individuals ages twenty-one (21) and older may receive SoonerCare-reimbursable inpatient psychiatric and/or chemical dependency detoxification/withdrawal management services in a psychiatric unit of a general hospital or in a psychiatric hospital.

(b) **Psychiatric hospitals and psychiatric units of general hospitals.** To be eligible for payment under this Part, inpatient psychiatric programs must be provided to eligible SoonerCare members in a hospital that:

- (1) Is a psychiatric hospital that:
 - (A) Successfully underwent a State survey to determine whether the hospital meets the requirements for participation in Medicare as a psychiatric hospital per 42 C.F.R. § 482.60; or
 - (B) Is accredited by a national organization whose psychiatric accrediting program has been approved by CMS; or
 - (2) Is a general hospital with a psychiatric unit that:
 - (A) Successfully underwent a State survey to determine whether the hospital meets the requirements for participation in Medicare as a hospital as specified in 42 C.F.R. Part 482; or
 - (B) Is accredited by a national accrediting organization whose accrediting program has been approved by CMS; and
 - (3) Meets all applicable federal regulations, including, but not limited to:
 - (A) Medicare Conditions of Participation for Hospitals (42 C.F.R. Part 482), including special provisions applying to psychiatric hospitals (42 C.F.R. § 482.60-.62);
 - (B) Medicaid for Individuals Age 65 or over in Institutions for Mental Diseases (42 C.F.R. Part 441, Subpart C);
 - (C) Inpatient Psychiatric Services for Individuals under Age 21 in Psychiatric Facilities or Programs (42 C.F.R. Part 441, Subpart D); and/or
 - (D) Utilization Control [42 C.F.R. Part 456, Subpart C (Utilization Control: Hospitals) or Subpart D (Utilization Control: Mental Hospitals)]; and
 - (4) Is contracted with the OHCA; and
 - (5) If located within Oklahoma and serving members under eighteen (18) years of age, is appropriately licensed by the Oklahoma Department of Human Services (OKDHS) as a residential child care facility (10 O.S. §§ 401 to 402) that is providing services as a residential treatment facility in accordance with OAC 340:110-3-168.
 - (6) If located out of state, services must be provided within the licensure for each facility and scope of practice for each provider and supervising or rendering practitioner for the state in which the facility/provider is located. Services must be in compliance with the state-specific statutes, rules and regulations of the applicable practice act.
- (c) **PRTF.** Every PRTF must:
- (1) Be individually contracted with OHCA as a PRTF;
 - (2) Meet all of the state and federal participation requirements for SoonerCare reimbursement, including, but not limited to, 42 C.F.R. § 483.354, as well as all requirements in 42 C.F.R. 483 Subpart G governing the use of restraint and seclusion;
 - ~~(3) Be appropriately licensed by OKDHS as a residential child care facility (10 O.S. § 401 to 402) that is providing services as a residential treatment facility in accordance with OAC 340:110-3-168;~~
 - (3) Be appropriately licensed and/or certified:
 - (A) If an in-state facility, by OKDHS as a residential child care facility (10 O.S. § 401 to 402) that is providing services as a residential treatment facility in accordance with OAC 340:110-3-168; or
 - (B) If an out-of-state facility, by the licensing or certifying authority of the state in which the facility does business and must provide an attestation to OHCA that the PRTF is in

compliance with the condition of participation for restraint and seclusion, as is required by federal law.

(4) Be appropriately certified by the State Survey Agency, the Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH) as meeting Medicare Conditions of Participation; and

(5) Be accredited by TJC, the Council on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF), or the Council on Accreditation (COA).

~~(d) **Out-of-state PRTF.** Any out-of-state PRTF must be appropriately licensed and/or certified in the state in which it does business, and must provide an attestation to OHCA that the PRTF is in compliance with the condition of participation for restraint and seclusion, as is required by federal law. Any out-of-state PRTF must also be accredited in conformance with OAC 317:30-5-95(e)(5).~~

~~(e)~~(d) **Required documents.** The required documents for enrollment for each participating provider can be downloaded from the OHCA's website.

317:30-5-95.24. Prior authorization of inpatient psychiatric services for individuals under twenty-one (21)

(a) All inpatient psychiatric services for members under twenty-one (21) years of age must be prior authorized by the OHCA or its designated agent. All inpatient Acute, Acute II, and PRTF services will be prior authorized for an approved length of stay. Admission requirements for services must be provided in accordance with 42 C.F.R. Part 441 and 456. Additional information will be required for SoonerCare-compensable approval on enhanced treatment units or in special population programs.

(b) Unit staffing ratios shall always meet the requirements in OAC 317:30-5-95.24 (c), (d), (h) and (i). Out-of-state facilities may adhere to the staffing requirements of the state in which the services are provided if the staff ratio is sufficient to ensure patient safety and that patients have reasonable and prompt access to services. The facility cannot use staff that is also on duty in other units of the facility in order to meet the unit staffing ratios. Patients shall be grouped for accommodation by gender, age, and treatment needs. At a minimum, children, adolescent, and adult treatment programs shall be separate with distinct units for each population. A unit is determined by separate and distinct sleeping, living, and treatment areas often separated by walls and/or doors. A unit that does not allow clear line of sight due to the presence of walls or doors is considered a separate unit. Each individual unit shall have assigned staff to allow for appropriate and safe monitoring of patients and to provide active treatment.

(c) In Acute and Acute II settings, at least one (1) registered nurse (RN) must be on duty per unit at all times, with additional RNs to meet program needs. RNs must adhere to Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH) policy at OAC 310:667-15-3 and 310:667-33-2(a)(3).

(d) Acute, non-specialty Acute II, and non-specialty PRTF programs require a staffing ratio of one (1) staff: six (6) patients during routine waking hours and one (1) staff: eight (8) patients during time residents are asleep with twenty-four (24) hour nursing care supervised by an RN for management of behaviors and medical complications. For PRTF programs, at a minimum, a supervising RN must be available by phone and on-site within one (1) hour. If the supervising RN is off-site, then an RN or licensed practical nurse (LPN) must be on-site to adhere to a twenty-four (24) hour nursing care coverage ratio of one (1) staff: thirty (30) patients during routine waking hours and one (1) staff: forty (40) patients during time residents are asleep.

(e) Specialty treatment at Acute II or PRTF is a longer-term treatment that requires a higher staff-to-member ratio because of the need for constant, intense, and immediate reinforcement of new

behaviors to develop an understanding of the behaviors. The environment of specialized residential treatment centers requires special structure and configuration (e.g., sensory centers for autistic members) and specialized training for the staff in the area of the identified specialty. The physician, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) with psychiatric certification or Physician Assistant (PA) will see the child at least one (1) time a week.

(f) An Acute II or PRTF will not be considered a specialty treatment program for SoonerCare without prior approval of the OHCA behavioral health unit.

(g) A treatment program that has been approved as a specialized treatment program must maintain medical records that document the degree and intensity of the psychiatric care delivered to the members and must meet active treatment requirements found at OAC 317:30-5-95.34.

(h) Criteria for classification as a specialty Acute II will require a staffing ratio of one (1) staff: four (4) patients at a minimum during routine waking hours and one (1) staff: six (6) patients during time residents are asleep with twenty-four (24) hour nursing care supervised by a RN for management of behaviors and medical complications. The specialty Acute II will be a secure unit, due to the complexity of needs and safety considerations. Admissions and authorization for continued stay for a specialty Acute II will be restricted to members who meet the medical necessity criteria at OAC 317:30-5-95.29 and OAC 317:30-5-95.30 for the respective level of care and meet the additional criteria found in the Behavioral Health Services Medical Necessity Criteria Manual, available on OHCA's website, www.okhea.org www.oklahoma.gov/ohca.

(i) Criteria for classification as a specialty PRTF will require a staffing ratio of one (1) staff: four (4) patients at a minimum during routine waking hours and one (1) staff: six (6) patients during time residents are asleep with twenty-four (24) hour nursing care supervised by a RN for management of behaviors and medical complications. The specialty PRTF will be a secure unit, due to the complexity of needs and safety considerations. Admissions and authorization for continued stay in a specialty PRTF will be restricted to members who meet the medical necessity criteria at OAC 317:30-5-95.29 and OAC 317:30-5-95.30 for the respective level of care and meet the additional criteria found in the Behavioral Health Services Medical Necessity Criteria Manual, available on OHCA's website, www.okhea.org www.oklahoma.gov/ohca.

(j) Non-authorized inpatient psychiatric services will not be SoonerCare compensable.

(k) For out-of-state placement policy, refer to OAC 317:30-3-89 through 317:30-3-92. A prime consideration for placements will be proximity to the family or guardian in order to involve the family or guardian in active treatment, including discharge and reintegration planning. Out-of-state facilities are responsible for insuring appropriate medical care, as needed under SoonerCare provisions, as part of the per-diem rate.

(l) Reimbursement for inpatient psychiatric services in all psychiatric units of general hospitals, psychiatric hospitals, and PRTFs are limited to the approved length of stay. OHCA, or its designated agent, will approve lengths of stay using the current OHCA Behavioral Health medical necessity criteria as described in OAC 317:30-5-95.25 through OAC 317:30-5-95.30. The approved length of stay applies to both facility and physician services.

317:30-5-95.40. Other required standards

The provider is required to maintain all programs and services according to applicable C.F.R. requirements, the Joint Commission¹ (TJC) and American Osteopathic Association¹ (AOA) standards for behavioral health care, Oklahoma State Department of Health's (OSDH) hospital standards for psychiatric care, and Oklahoma Department of Human Services¹ (OKDHS) licensing

standards for residential treatment facilities. PRTFs may substitute the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) accreditation in lieu of TJC or AOA accreditation. In addition to federal requirements, out-of-state inpatient psychiatric facilities must adhere to OAC 317:30-5-95 and 317:30-5-95.24.

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