

POLICY



Policy No: HCS-341

Policy Title: Hospital Readmission Review

Department: Healthcare Services (HCS)

Sub-Department:

Entity: Molina Healthcare, Inc.

Effective Date: 10/18/2019

State(s): AZ, CA, FL, ID, IL, KY, MA, MI, MS, NM, NV, NY, OH, SC, TX, UT, VA, WA, and WI

Name: Pamela Sanborn

Signature:

Pamela Sanborn

Title: SVP, Clinical Operations

Lines of Business:

All

Medicare

Marketplace

Medicaid

Medicare-Medicaid Programs (MMP)

Other: _____

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that Molina Healthcare members are receiving quality care that is compliant with nationally recognized guidelines as well as federal and state regulations.

II. POLICY

Molina Healthcare will conduct readmission reviews when the readmission occurs at the same acute inpatient hospital. When a subsequent approved admission to the same hospital with the same or similar diagnosis occurs within twenty-four (24) hours of discharge, the hospital will be informed that the readmission will be combined with the initial admission and will be processed as a continued stay. A single payment will be considered as payment in full for both the first and second hospital admissions. All subsequent approved admissions after 24 hours will undergo a readmission review to determine if the readmission is considered Potentially Preventable.

A. A readmission is considered Potentially Preventable if it is clinically related to the prior admission and includes one of the following circumstances:

1. Premature or inadequate discharge from the same hospital.
2. Issues with transition or coordination of care from the initial admission.
3. For an acute medical complication plausibly related to care that occurred during the initial admission.

B. Readmissions that are excluded from consideration as Preventable readmissions include:

1. Planned readmissions associated with major or metastatic malignancies, multiple trauma, and burns.
2. Neonatal and obstetrical readmissions.

3. Initial admissions with a discharge status of “left against medical advice” because the intended care was not completed.
4. Behavioral Health readmissions.
5. Transplant related readmissions.

III. SCOPE

Healthcare Services

IV. AREA(S) OF RESPONSIBILITY

Healthcare Services, Claims, Quality Improvement

V. DEFINITION(S)

Readmission: When a patient is discharged from the hospital and then admitted back into the hospital within a short period of time.

VI. REFERENCE(S)

42 CFR 476.71(a)(8)(ii)
 42 USC §1154 (13)
 ACA Regulations

VII. VERSION CONTROL

Version No	Date	Revision Author/Title	Summary of Changes
1	1/6/2022	J. Cruz/VP Clinical Operations	Annual review, new P&P template (previous revision dates- 10/18/2019, 10/19/2020, 06/28/2021)