



CG-UM-002

Services Reviewed Using InterQual Criteria

Effective Date: 08/14/25 PHC Authorization Referral Process

Last Revised: 07/29/25 **Replaces:** N/A

Summary

When coverage criteria are not fully established in Medi-Cal statute/regulation, the Health Plan uses alternative evidence-based coverage criteria, treatment guidelines, and clinical literature to review services for medical necessity, including InterQual guidelines.

InterQual Criteria are produced using a rigorous development process based on the principles of evidence-based medicine (EBM) to provide guidance in covering both medical and behavioral health across all levels of care. Additionally, InterQual Criteria provides EBM-directed guidance that can be applied to ambulatory care planning, complex care management, durable medical equipment, procedures, and specialty pharmacy.

Note: *The purpose of this document is to identify medical services that may be reviewed using InterQual criteria. Information that follows uses specific words familiar to medical professionals such as doctors, nurses, psychologists, or dentists.*

Module	Service
Acute Adult	• Acute Kidney Injury • Anemia/Bleeding • Antepartum • Asthma • Capsule endoscopy • Capsule Endoscopy, Colon • Capsule Endoscopy, Small Bowel or Esophageal • Carbon Monoxide Poisoning • Cholecystitis • Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) • Cystic Fibrosis • Deep Vein Thrombosis • Diabetes Mellites (DM) • Diabetic Ketoacidosis (DKA) • Electrolyte/Mineral Imbalance • Epilepsy • Extended Stay • General Medical • General Trauma • Heart Failure • Hematology/Oncology: Acute Myeloid Leukemia • Hematology/Oncology: Brain Malignancy/Metastasis • Hematology/Oncology: Chemo • Hematology/Oncology: Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome • Hematology/Oncology: Malignant Disease • Hematology/Oncology: Tumor Lysis Syndrome • Hip arthrotomy • Hyperosmolar Hyperglycemic State • Hypertension • Hypertensive Disorder in Pregnancy • Hypoglycemia • Infection: Central Nervous System (CNS) • Infection: Endocarditis • Infection: General • Infection: Gastrointestinal/Genitourinary/Gynecology • Infection: Musculoskeletal • Infection: Pneumonia • Infection: Sepsis • Infection: Skin • Irritable Bowel Disease

Module	Service
Acute Adult (continued)	• Labor & Delivery • Pancreatitis • Postpartum Complications After Discharge • Pulmonary Embolism • Quality Indicator Checklist • Rhabdomyolysis or Crush Syndrome • Sick Cell Crisis • Stroke • Syncope • Total Joint Replacement (TJR) Ankle • Transient Ischemic Attack (TIA) • Transition Plan (Continued Stay and Transition Planning only) • Withdrawal Syndrome • Wound debridement
Acute Pediatrics	• Acetaminophen Overdose • Acute Kidney Injury • Anemia/Bleeding • Antepartum • Asthma • Brief Unresolved Unexplained Event • Bronchiolitis • Capsule Endoscopy (Pediatric) • Carbon Monoxide Poisoning • Cellulitis • Croup • Cystic Fibrosis • Dehydration/Gastroenteritis • Diabetic Ketoacidosis (DKA) • Diabetes Mellitus (DM) • Electrolyte/Mineral Imbalance • Epilepsy • Extended Stay • Failure to Thrive • General Medical • General Trauma • Hematology/Oncology: Chemotherapy

Module	Service
	• Hematology/Oncology: Acute Leukemia • Hematology/Oncology: Brain Malignancy/Metastasis • Hematology/Oncology: Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome • Hematology/Oncology: Malignant Disease • Hematology/Oncology: Tumor Lysis Syndrome • Hip Arthrotomy • Hyperbilirubinemia • Hypertensive Disorder in Pregnancy • Hypoglycemia • Infection: Central Nervous System (CNS) • Infection: Endocarditis • Infection: General • Infection: Gastrointestinal/Genitourinary/Gynecology • Infection: Meningitis • Infection: Musculoskeletal • Infection: Pneumonia • Infection: Pyelonephritis • Infection: Sepsis • Infection: Skin • Labor & Delivery • Nursery • Pancreatitis • Postpartum Complications After Discharge • Quality Indicator Checklist • Rhabdomyolysis or Crush Syndrome • Sick Cell Crisis • Transition Plan (Continued Stay and Transition Planning only) • Withdrawal Syndrome • Wound Debridement
Behavioral Health	• Adult and Geriatric Psychiatry • Applied Behavior Analysis for Autism Spectrum Disorder • Child and Adolescent Psychiatry • Electroconvulsive Therapy: Adolescent • Electroconvulsive Therapy: Adult/Geriatric • Neurobehavioral Status Exam • Neuropsychological Testing

Module	Service
	• Neuropsychological Testing: Pediatric • Pharmacogenomic Testing for Psychotropic Medication Drug Response • Psychological Testing • Stereotactic Introduction: Subcortical Electrodes • Substance Abuse Disorders
Durable Medical Equipment (DME)	• Home Oxygen Therapy • Negative Pressure Wound Therapy (NPWT) Pump • Orthosis, Spinal (Thoracolumbosacral)
Home Care	• Adult and Pediatric
Imaging	• Imaging, Breast
Long Term Acute Care (LTAC)	• Medically Complex • Respiratory Complex • Transition Plan • Ventilator Weaning • Wound/Skin
Procedures	• Endovascular Repair, Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA) • Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator (ICD Insertion) • Mastectomy, Prophylactic, Total or Simple
Rehabilitation	• Amputation, Lower Extremity Rehabilitation (Adult, Adolescent, School Age) • Amputation, Upper Extremity Rehabilitation (Adult, Adolescent, School Age) • Cardiac Rehabilitation (Adult) • Carpal Tunnel Syndrome Rehabilitation (Adult) • Cerebrovascular Accident Rehabilitation (Adult) • DeQuervain's Tenosynovitis Rehabilitation (Adult) • Fractures, Lower Extremity (Adult, Adolescent, School Age) • Fractures, Upper Extremity Rehabilitation (Adult, Adolescent, School Age) • General Deconditioning Rehabilitation (Adult) • Habilitation (Adult, Adolescent, School Age) • Habilitation Criteria • Instability Dislocation Shoulder Rehabilitation (Adult) • Ligamentous Injury Ankle Rehabilitation (Adult, Adolescent, School Age)

Module	Service
	• Ligamentous Injury Knee Rehabilitation (Adult, Adolescent, School Age) • Lymphedema Rehabilitation (Adult) • Maintenance Therapy Rehabilitation (Adult) • Meniscal Injury Knee Rehabilitation (Adult, Adolescent, School Age) • Multiple Sclerosis Rehabilitation (Adult) • Osteoarthritis Hip Rehabilitation (Adult) • Osteoarthritis Rehabilitation, Knee (Adult) • Osteoarthritis Rehabilitation, Shoulder (Adult) • Pain Syndromes Rehabilitation (adult, adolescent) • Pediatric rehabilitation criteria • Pelvic floor rehabilitation • Pulmonary rehabilitation (adult) • Rotator cuff disorders rehabilitation (adult, adolescent, school age) • Soft tissue disorders knee rehabilitation (adult, adolescent, school age) • Soft tissue disorders rehabilitation, foot and ankle (adult adolescent, school age) • Soft tissue disorders, rehabilitation (adult) • Spinal disorders rehabilitation, cervical (adult) • Spinal disorders rehabilitation, lumbar (adult, adolescent, school age) • Sprain wrist rehabilitation (adult, adolescent, school age) • Strain low back rehabilitation (adult, adolescent, school age) • Strain neck rehabilitation (adult, adolescent, school age) • Tendon injury hand rehabilitation (adult, adolescent, school age) • Tendon rupture achilles rehabilitation (adult) • Thoracic outlet syndrome rehabilitation (adult, adolescent, school age) • Traumatic brain injury rehabilitation (adult) • Trigger finger rehabilitation (adult) • Ulnar neuropathy rehabilitation (adult, adolescent, school age)

Module	Service
Specialty Rx Non-Oncology	• Alpha 1 Proteinase Inhibitor • Bevacizumab Intravitreal • Factor IX (Alphanine SD) • Factor IX (Bebulin VH, Profilnine SD) • Factor IX (Benefix, Rixubis) • Factor VIII (Advate) • Factor VIII (Alphanate) • Factor VIII (Hemofil M) • Factor VIII (Humate-P) • Factor VIII (Wilate) • Factor VIII (Xyntha) • Factor VIII or IX (Feiba NF) • Factor XIII (Corifact) • Hydroxyprogesterone caproate • Lanreotide • Octreotide acetate (Sandostatin LAR Depot) • Octreotide acetate (Sandostatin) • Rho(D) immune globulin (Rhophylac) • Rho(D) immune globulin (WinRho)
Specialty Rx Oncology	• Plerixafor • Rolapitant Injection • Zoledronic Acid
Subacute/Skilled Nursing Facility	• Maintenance Therapy

History	
Date	Comments
09/16/19	New administrative guideline, approved August 30, 2019, effective January 1, 2020, developed to aid in navigation to InterQual clinical criteria for use in the individual market.
10/22/19	Minor update, the policy was corrected to remove drugs that will not be addressed using InterQual criteria. These had been added in error.
11/21/19	Interim Review, approved November 12, 2019, effective February 21, 2020. Added rehabilitative services to be reviewed using InterQual as listed; considered medically necessary when criteria are met.
12/01/19	Minor update, the policy was corrected to remove additional drugs that will not be addressed using InterQual criteria. These had been added in error.
04/01/20	Interim Review, approved March 10, 2020. The following changes are effective July 2, 2020, following provider notification. Services within durable medical equipment and procedures were added to those reviewed for medical necessity using InterQual criteria for dates of service July 2, 2020, and after. The following policies are no longer effective after that date: 1.01.10, 1.01.11, 1.01.15, 1.01.18, 1.01.30, 1.01.501, 1.01.519, 1.01.520, 1.01.527, 1.03.501, 2.01.40, 2.01.505, 2.01.533, 2.02.09, 2.02.26, 2.02.30, 2.02.506, 2.02.507, 6.01.25, 7.01.05, 7.01.07, 7.01.20, 7.01.107, 7.01.108, 7.01.109, 7.01.132, 7.01.138, 7.01.143, 7.01.503, 7.01.508, 7.01.516, 7.01.519, 7.01.521, 7.01.522, 7.01.523, 7.01.533, 7.01.542, 7.01.546, 7.01.549, 7.01.550, 7.01.551, 7.01.554, 7.01.555, 7.01.558, 7.01.560, 7.01.570, 7.01.573, 7.01.63, 7.01.84, 7.01.87, 7.01.95, 7.03.01, 7.03.09, 7.03.11, 7.03.509, 8.01.11, 8.01.15, 8.01.17, 8.01.21, 8.01.22, 8.01.29, 8.01.30, 8.01.36, 8.01.521, 9.03.01.
05/06/20	Interim Review, approved May 5, 2020. Corrections made: Policies 2.02.09, 7.01.07, 7.01.87, 7.01.95, 7.01.554, 7.03.09, 7.03.11 and 9.03.01 along with corresponding InterQual subsets removed; policies 8.01.529 and 8.01.532 added (subsets were listed but titles were inadvertently not included in reference policies). Autologous stem cell transplant subset added; it was left out in error.
06/09/20	Interim Review, approved June 9, 2020. Correction made policies 2.01.40, 2.01.505, 6.01.25, 7.01.107, 7.01.108, 7.01.109, 7.01.138, 7.01.508, 7.01.516, 7.01.522, 7.01.533, 7.01.542, 7.01.551, 7.01.555, 7.01.560, 7.01.570, 7.03.01, 7.03.509, 8.01.11, 8.01.15, 8.01.17, 8.01.21, 8.01.22, 8.01.29, 8.01.30, 8.01.521, 8.01.529, 8.01.532 along with corresponding InterQual subsets removed.
06/25/20	Interim Review, approved June 25, 2020. Removed policy 2.02.30 – this policy will remain active and InterQual will not replace this review criteria on July 2, 2020.
11/01/20	Annual Review, approved Oct. 13, 2020. Policy updated to remove outpatient procedures and DME which will no longer be in effect as of Feb. 5, 2021, pursuant to provider notification.
06/01/21	Interim Review, approved May 20, 2021. Removed aflibercept, ranibizumab, and reslizumab from Specialty Rx Non-Oncology.
08/01/21	Annual Review, approved July 9, 2021. Policy reviewed; no changes.

History (continued)	
Date	Comments
09/01/22	Interim Review, approved August 9, 2022. Removed botulinum toxins from Pharmacy Specialty Rx Non-Oncology section. These drugs will now be reviewed with policy 5.01.512 Botulinum Toxins effective December 1, 2022.
10/01/22	Annual Review, approved September 26, 2022. Added Negative Pressure Wound Therapy to the DME section; added Capsule Endoscopy to acute Adult and Pediatric Acute sections replacing policies 1.01.532 Negative Pressure Wound therapy and 2.01.538 Capsule Endoscopy. Added Total Ankle Replacement to Adult Acute section to replace policy 7.01.577 Total Ankle Replacement; and added Electroconvulsive Therapy, both effective January 6, 2023 following 90-day provider notification.
01/01/23	Interim Review, approved December 13, 2022. Added Cardiac Defibrillator, Subcutaneous Implantable, Home Oxygen Therapy, and Spinal Orthosis to the list of services reviewed using InterQual criteria.
08/01/23	Annual Review, approved July 11, 2023. Added Endovascular Repair, Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA) and Mastectomy, Prophylactic, Total or Simple to the list of services reviewed using InterQual criteria to replace policies 2.02.513 Endovascular Repair- Stent for Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm and 7.01.581 Prophylactic Mastectomy.
09/01/23	Interim Review, approved August 8, 2023. Added Digital Breast Tomosynthesis to the list of services reviewed using InterQual criteria to replace policy 6.01.526 Digital Breast Tomosynthesis effective December 7, 2023 following 90-day provider notification.
12/07/23	Minor corrections. Corrected module listed under Imaging to, "Imaging, Breast" which replaced policy 6.01.526, Digital Breast Tomosynthesis" (incorrectly listed as "Digital Breast Tomosynthesis"). Also, corrected module name for Spinal Stenosis to "Orthosis, Spinal (Thoracolumbosacral)." Moved "Cardiac Defibrillator, Subcutaneous Implantable" from the Adult Acute section to the Procedures section and correctly listed as, "Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator (ICD Insertion)."

Disclaimer: This medical policy is a guide in evaluating the medical necessity of a particular service or treatment. The Health Plan adopts policies after careful review of published peer-reviewed scientific literature, national guidelines and local standards of practice. Since medical technology is constantly changing, the Health Plan reserves the right to review and update policies as appropriate.

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Scope: Medical policies are systematically developed guidelines that serve as a resource for Health Plan staff when determining coverage for specific medical procedures, drugs or devices. Coverage for medical services is subject to eligibility and the limits and conditions of member benefits.



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200 Independence Avenue, SW
Room 509F, HHH Building
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