



Medical Necessity and/or Clinical Necessity

Medical Necessity and/or Clinical Necessity: Those services that are necessary and appropriate for the prevention, diagnosis or treatment of a mental health, developmental disability, or substance abuse condition, and are:

- Consistent with SMC-adopted service definitions and other service guidelines.
- Individualized, specific and consistent with symptoms or confirmed diagnosis of the condition under treatment, and not in excess of the recipient's needs.
- Able to be safely furnished, and no equally effective and more conservative or less costly treatment is available.
- Furnished in a manner not primarily intended for the convenience of the recipient, the recipient's caretaker, or the provider.
- Not for experimental, investigational, unproven or solely cosmetic purposes.
- Furnished by or under the supervision of a practitioner licensed (as relevant) under NC state law in the specialty for which they are providing service and in accordance with federal and state laws and regulations, the Medicaid State Plan, the North Carolina Administrative Code, Medicaid clinical coverage policies, and other applicable federal and state directives.
- Sufficient in amount, duration and scope to reasonably achieve their purposes.
- Reasonably related to the diagnosis for which they are prescribed regarding type, intensity, duration of service and setting of treatment.

source:

"LME UM Requirements and Procedures", issued 11/14/08, section VII A and B
<http://www.ncdhhs.gov/dma/lmeumproposal/111408RequirementsProcedures.pdf>