

Out-of-State Prior Authorization Inpatient Hospitalization

Effective January 13, 2014, all out of state Inpatient hospitalizations require prior authorization. This change impacts all inpatient hospitals located beyond the 50 miles radius of the South Dakota border, except hospitals in Bismarck, ND.

Referring providers must submit a completed Prior Authorization Request Form, including a section required for out-of-state request only. This section includes questions about if the services can be provided in South Dakota or a closer location than is being requested and, if it can, why the person needs to go out-of-state. Out-of-state inpatient hospitals need prior authorizations in order to receive reimbursement for the services they provide.

When the inpatient hospitalization is the result of an emergency, the prior authorization can be granted retroactively. Ongoing provider education is being done to prevent transfers to out-of-state locations when comparable services are available in South Dakota.

Medical Services nurses have been working closely with providers to obtain the necessary information for authorization and tracking ongoing stays. Since January 13, 2014, South Dakota Medicaid has made determinations on 80 out-of-state inpatient hospitalization prior authorization requests.

South Dakota Medicaid plans to implement a similar requirement for out-of-state outpatient services. Information about this and other services that require prior authorization can be found at:

<http://dss.sd.gov/sdmedx/includes/providers/programinfo/pa/index.aspx>