

Medical Necessity Documentation I

Did you know?

All health insurance carriers are increasingly scrutinizing your belief that the patient in front of you really requires *inpatient* admission to your hospital

- Please DO NOT admit someone simply because “they can’t walk”
- Please DO NOT admit someone for “s/p fall”
- Please DO NOT admit someone for “nursing home placement”
- Please DO NOT admit someone in order to “rule out” a particular diagnosis
- Please DO NOT admit someone because “the family can no longer take care of them”

***Patients must have a legitimate medical reason (i.e. a specific diagnosis) that can only be treated in the acute care setting in order to qualify for hospital admission reimbursement**

Other Important Medical Necessity Considerations:

- A patient’s chronological age is NOT part of any recognized admission criteria
- A patient’s medical condition should NEVER be described as “stable” at the time of admission
- At the time of admission, please **Do Not** state that you will “observe the patient” *or* that you will “observe overnight” *or* that “I expect the patient will go home in the morning”

***Note:** It is almost impossible to justify hospital admission if all of the patient’s vital signs and all of their lab results are within normal limits