

2019 Behavioral Medical Necessity Criteria

After receiving feedback from a variety of professional and consumer sources, Cigna's Behavioral Health Quality Committee has adopted and updated its Standards and Guidelines / Medical Necessity Criteria for Treatment of Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders. The criteria use evidence-based and accepted clinical practice guidelines for condition-specific management of illness.

The Standards and Guidelines / Medical Necessity Criteria for Treatment of Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders became effective on January 1, 2019, and are now available on the Cigna for Health Care Professionals website at CignaforHCP.com > Resources > Behavioral Health Resources > Medical Necessity Criteria > Medical Necessity Criteria.

New J-code assigned for Rituxan

Rituximab, sold under the brand name Rituxan among others, is a medication used to treat certain autoimmune diseases and types of cancer.

Rituxan's Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) J-Code J9310 has been discontinued effective December 31, 2018. Effective January 1, 2019, the new HCPCS J-code for Rituxan is J9312 and billable units have changed from 100 mg to 10 mg.

Existing authorizations for J9310 will continue to be honored through their expiration. There is no need to submit a new authorization request. New requests for authorization for Rituxan should use HCPCS J-code J9312.