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| **CIGNA TO ADOPT AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ADDICTION MEDICINE (ASAM) CRITERIA** |

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| **Effective April 25, 2020** |  |

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| Cigna will be adopting the American Society of Addiction Medicine criteria (The ASAM Criteria®) for conducting medical necessity reviews of substance use disorder levels of care for all commercial health plan business effective April 25, 2020. The ASAM Criteria have generally been accepted as the standard of care for the treatment of substance use disorders and are widely utilized by substance use treatment providers. Cigna Behavioral Health’s Medical Necessity Criteria will be updated to include reference to The ASAM Criteria as applicable for substance use services. We will continue to use existing medical necessity criteria for all other services.**How you can use The ASAM Criteria**The ASAM Criteria is a collection of objective, outcome-oriented, results-based standards, which providers should use to help identify the least intensive treatment services for a Cigna customer while ensuring quality outcomes. The criteria should be used when evaluating the need for beginning, ending, or continuing services, at the same or different level of care. The criteria assesses:* An individual’s wants, needs and risks;
* Identifies severity and treatment priorities; and
* Provides and evaluates the appropriate intensity of services.

Treatment plans are developed through a multidimensional patient assessment.**Additional resources**For more information on The ASAM Criteria, please visit the American Society of Addiction Medicine website ([ASAM.org](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__www.waymail.com_maximail_link.htm-3Ftrlnkid-3D147463A92899A178671125&d=DwMCaQ&c=xn8flH6DOXBk6JKHH02eLJq194X6KF7E4brKNzAQIFY&r=_cnKA8bxU5E8JC0Ey4kgoKiT6j7mot8S4lNsEDAh-No&m=trZuKq1p3g8sYxq8MU7h6ZzsfzS5ehU3AFdxAb3fmQU&s=Q38p6JOTBVE_mSkKGxHof5b4eHcGcdUROeIzZ9M4k1M&e=) > Quality & Science > [The ASAM Criteria](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__www.waymail.com_maximail_link.htm-3Ftrlnkid-3D147462A92899A178671125&d=DwMCaQ&c=xn8flH6DOXBk6JKHH02eLJq194X6KF7E4brKNzAQIFY&r=_cnKA8bxU5E8JC0Ey4kgoKiT6j7mot8S4lNsEDAh-No&m=trZuKq1p3g8sYxq8MU7h6ZzsfzS5ehU3AFdxAb3fmQU&s=rM5UbjTdL42AbIy7A-kxYq20MM_WZJW_coYdd0-UI9Q&e=)). |  |

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