

Child Welfare System Task Force
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EXTERNAL VALIDATION: PRTF ADMISSION REVIEWS

What is External Validation?

An audit process by an independent, external organization to assure the quality of surveillance, monitoring and/or reporting processes.

Purpose

- To assure high-quality surveillance or monitoring data through accountability and by identifying, understanding, and correcting reporting problems.
- The focus of this report is the external validation of MCO-reported PRTF Admission reviews, conducted by both KDHE and KDADS

KFMC's Qualifications

- KFMC is URAC[®] accredited as an Independent Review Organization: External
- KFMC has over 45 year's experience providing medical review services to Federal, State, and private customers
- KFMC has recruited and maintained a strong network of peer reviewers who are dedicated to this work
 - The average tenure of KFMC's peer reviewer staff is 9 years

KFMC's PRTF Validation Team

- Case Review Manager: Registered Health Information Technologist (RHIT) and Certified Coding Specialist (CCS)
 - >18 years experience in independent peer review and utilization review oversight
- Physician Reviewers:
 - Three physicians participated in this validation process
 - All Board Certified through the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology
 - All in active practice >32 hours per week

KFMC's PRTF Validation Team

- PRTF Review Coordinator:
 - Joined KFMC in July as a Quality Improvement Advisor, with subject matter expertise in behavioral health
 - >15 years experience as the Quality Improvement/Risk Manager for a Kansas Community Mental Health Center serving a thirteen county catchment area
 - One of her duties in this role included serving as the secondary PRTF Liaison for the center
 - 7 years experience as a Utilization Coordinator for a Colorado-based MCO

Validation Process

- KDHE and KDADs had previously audited 200 PRTF admission requests (both approved and denied) and determined that 100% of cases reviewed were appropriate based on established criteria for medical necessity
- KFMC validated a targeted sample of those reviews to ensure the reliability of KDHE and KDAD's audit findings

Validation Process

Certification of Need for Services §441.152

A treatment team must certify that:

- Ambulatory care resources available in the community do not meet treatment needs of the beneficiary.
- Proper treatment of the beneficiary's psychiatric condition requires services on an inpatient basis under the direction of a physician.
- The services can reasonably be expected to improve the beneficiary's condition or prevent further regression, so that the services will no longer be needed.

Each MCO adopts (with approval) a criteria for determining the appropriateness of the certification in meeting the Medical Necessity Criteria.

Findings

KFMC validated a 20% sample:

Type of Stay	Status	# of Cases
Initial Stay	Denied	16
Continued Stay	Denied	4
Initial Say	Approved	10
Continued Stay	Approved	10
Total		40

100% of the determinations reviewed were upheld as appropriate by KFMC's Validation Team

Questions?