

PERSONS WITH SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS

Definition

The seriously mentally ill are defined as persons who, as the result of a mental disorder, exhibit emotional, cognitive, or behavioral functioning which is so impaired as to interfere substantially with their capacity to remain in the community without supportive treatment or services of a long-term or indefinite duration. In these persons, mental disability is severe and persistent resulting in a long term limitation in their functional capacities for primary activities of daily living such as interpersonal relationships, self-care, homemaking, employment, and recreation.

Conditions such as mental retardation or substance abuse may cause similar problems or limitations, and are not to be included in this definition unless, in addition to one or more of these disorders, the person has a severe and persistent mental disorder.

Criteria

Assessment:

The person has undergone a comprehensive professional clinical assessment sufficient to establish a diagnosis of mental disorder and a quantitative functional assessment. The combination of diagnosis and level of functioning establishes eligibility for public services through a formula stated below.

Eligible Diagnoses:

The person meets the latest DSM edition criteria for mental disorder in Category I, II, or III.

CATEGORY I

- Schizophrenic Disorders (295.1, 295.2, 295.3, 295.6, 295.9)
- Delusional Disorders (297.1)
- Psychotic Disorders Not Elsewhere Classified
 - Schizo-affective Disorders (295.7)
 - Psychotic Disorders NOS (298.9)
- Mood Disorders
 - Bipolar Disorders (296.4, 296.5, 296.6, 296.7)
 - Depressive Disorders (296.2, 296.3)

- Substance Related Disorders Persisting Three Months After Detoxification and Stabilization
 - Psychotic Disorders (291.3, 291.5, 292.11, 292.12)
 - Mood Disorders (291.89 for mood only, 292.84)

CATEGORY II

- Mental Disorders Due to a General Medical Condition
 - Psychotic Disorder Due to a General Medical Condition with Delusions (293.81)
 - Psychotic Disorder Due to a General Medical Condition with Hallucinations (293.82)
 - Mood Disorder Due to a General Medical Condition (293.83)
- Anxiety Disorders
 - Panic Disorder with Agoraphobia (300.21)
 - * Panic Disorder without Agoraphobia (300.01)
 - Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (309.81)
 - Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (300.3)
 - Alcohol induced anxiety disorder/mood disorder with depressive features (291.81)
- Personality Disorders (these conditions exempted from provisionally qualifying conditions)
 - Schizoid (301.20)
 - Schizotypal (301.22)
 - Borderline Personality Disorder (301.83)

CATEGORY III (these conditions exempted from provisionally qualifying conditions)

- Other Disorders Not Listed Above and Not Excluded Below

PERSONS WITH A PROVISIONALLY QUALIFYING CONDITION

These persons are defined as those who have a substance abuse condition and are suspected to suffer from a qualifying condition due to their symptoms and functional limitations. These persons have on-going and recent substance abuse which prevents the clinician from making a definitive qualifying diagnosis.

Excluded Diagnoses:

Unless an eligible disorder listed above is also present, the following disorders are excluded from eligibility under the Adult Behavioral Health Managed Care Plan.

- Delirium, Dementia, and Amnesic and other Cognitive Disorders
- Disorders Usually First Diagnosed in Infancy, Childhood, or Adolescence, i.e., Mental Retardation, Pervasive Developmental Disorders, Learning Disorders, Motor Skills Disorder, Communication Disorders.
- Substance Induced Disorders except as otherwise described above.
- Substance Dependence Disorders
- Psychotic Disorders Not Elsewhere Classified. Only the following diagnosis in this category is excluded:
 - Brief Psychotic Disorder (298.8)
- Sexual and Gender Identity Disorders
- Factitious Disorders
- Impulse Control Disorders Not Elsewhere Classified
- Adjustment Disorders
- Psychological Factors Affecting Medical Conditions
- V Codes

Comorbidity:

Patients with a substance abuse diagnosis must also meet the diagnostic criteria for an above accepted mental illness to be considered potentially SMI. Those patients who are suspected to suffer from a qualifying condition yet currently are using substances, thus precluding the clear determination of an eligible diagnosis will be provisionally accepted as suffering from a qualifying condition. For those individuals with a dual diagnosis of substance abuse and a severe and persistent mental disorder, the assessment will also need to include a rating using the most current American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) placement criteria. The assessment for dual diagnosis individuals must also include a history of the patient's past and present substance use sufficient to identify and describe its effects on cognitive, psychological,

behavioral, and physiological function; a general medical and psychiatric history and psychiatric examination; a history of prior psychiatric treatments and outcomes; a family and social history; screening of blood, breath, or urine for abused substances. This assessment will be considered if the available information is sufficient to document the patient's appropriateness for SMI status and support a determination. A copy of any recent hospital or treatment facility admission and discharge summaries will aid the MQD reviewer in making a determination.

Patients with DD/MR in addition to an allowable diagnosis will have to be at worst in the mild range (317.00) for eligibility.

Impaired Level of Functioning:

Assessment of impaired role functioning is achieved by the administration of an instrument such as the Client Assessment Record (CAR). At the minimum the Global Assessment of Functioning (GAF) will be provided to the MQD reviewer. A GAF score below 50 will be considered as supportive of an impaired level of functioning in conjunction with the CAR calculated score by the MQD reviewer. If the CAR instrument was used by the provider, CAR scales would be limited to: Medical/Physical, Family/Living Situation, Interpersonal Relations, Role Performance, Socio-Legal, and Self-Care/Basic Needs. The person is assigned to one of the four following levels of impaired functioning:

Level A:

3 or more CAR scale scores of 40 and above or
4 or more CAR scale scores of 30 and above.

Level B:

2 or more CAR scale scores of 40 and above or
3 or more CAR scale scores of 30 and above.

Level C₁:

1 CAR scale score of 40 and above or
2 CAR scale scores of 30 and above.

Level C₂:

Clinical evidence indicates that level of functioning would rate at the C₁ level or lower in the absence of treatment.

Eligibility Determination Formula:

1.
 - a) The patient meets Diagnostic Category 1 and any of the Impaired Role Functioning Levels (A, B, C1 or C2).
 - b) The patient meets Diagnostic Category II and Impaired Role Functioning Levels A or B.
 - c) The patient meets Diagnostic Category III and Impaired Role Functioning Level A.
2. As part of the assessment of chronic mental illness, documentation should be provided on historical duration of illness and disability and/or on the presence of risk factors making it likely that the disorder and disability will be present into the foreseeable future.
 - a, b, or c above must have been present for at least 6 months or must have a 6 month minimal expected duration or must have a combined present and expected duration of 6 months.

Accessible Services:

The person with a clear SMI diagnosis is judged to be in need of a comprehensive planned package of supportive and treatment services requiring intensive case management and interdisciplinary supervision of long-term or indefinite duration. Those with a provisional diagnosis due to limited functioning secondary to substance abuse are judged to be in need of the above services for a limited-term duration in order to establish a clear SMI diagnosis.