

## ASAM Requirements for Chapter 18 Providers

July 13, 2016

All Certified Chapter 18 Providers:

I wanted to send out a reminder to our alcohol and drug service providers regarding 450:18-7-21 and ASAM as well as 18-7-121 and ASAM.

The standard reads:

**450:18-7-21. Clinical record content, screening, intake, and assessment**

*(c) All facilities shall assess each consumer for appropriateness of admission to the treatment program. Each presenting consumer for substance use disorder treatment shall be assessed, according to ASAM criteria, which includes a list of symptoms for all six dimensions and each level of care, to determine a clinically appropriate placement in the least restrictive level of care. [...]Facilities must ensure that a consumer's refusal of a particular service does not preclude the consumer from accessing other needed mental health or substance-related or addictive disorder treatment services. **Should the service provider determine the consumer's needs cannot be met within the facility, clinical assessments and referrals for the consumer shall be documented.***

The standard asks for both symptoms for all six dimensions and each level of care **to determine a clinically appropriate placement in the least restrictive level of care.**

The purpose of the ASAM is to gauge the appropriate clinical placement for a person across the spectrum of the levels of care. Although it is important to know that the consumer fits into the level of care that you provide, it is equally important to know which level of care the consumer fits into, should he/she not fit into the level of care that you provide.

The last portion of the standard above addresses what providers need to do for the consumer, should the consumer's level of care require a different one than what the provider can offer.

When reviewing a provider's ASAM's, Provider Certification looks for three items:

- 1) The ASAM tool must contain symptoms for all six dimensions.
- 2) The ASAM tool must contain all levels of care, so that the possibility exists for the consumer to be assessed for any level of care, not just those that the provider has.
- 3) The above references the beginning (identifying the symptoms the consumer has) and the end (which level of care he/she requires) of the process. Provider Certification also looks for the middle piece of this process, so that we can see how the determination was made by the provider that, based on these symptoms, THIS is why the consumer scored into this particular level of care. Now, whether this middle piece focuses on the severity of the symptoms or is number based (such as the decision tree for the ODASL), is up to the provider. However, Provider Certification will look for this middle piece to be present as well.

\*\*As with all documentation, please be sure that all documentation, including any overrides, is completely filled out.

18-7-21 refers to the admission process; 18-7-121 refers to the discharge process. 18-7-21 also calls for symptoms from the six levels of care and for all levels of care. When Provider

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Certification reviews the discharge ASAM, we utilize the same criteria as outlined above for the admission ASAM.

Provider Certification does not mandate the use of any specific ASAM form; however if providers have contracts, those may specify a certain one.

ODMHSAS does provide access to a free ASAM tool that is called the ODASL (OK Determination of ASAM Service Level). That tool, as well as other ODASL resources is located here: [http://www.odmhsas.org/picis/TraningInfo/arc\\_Training\\_Information.htm](http://www.odmhsas.org/picis/TraningInfo/arc_Training_Information.htm)

Also located at that site is the service level placement sheet which is the middle piece that is referred to above.

In addition to these resources, ODMHSAS also provides training for this instrument. The link for training is located <https://registration.xenegrade.com/odmhsastraininginstitute/search.cfm> . The training is provided in different locations; however, it is not a free training.

If there are any questions about the ASAM and how it is reviewed by Provider Certification, please do not hesitate to contact me. **Neither I, nor this office, can answer any questions regarding billing.** Any questions regarding training should be directed towards the Training Institute: (405) 248-9062.

Thank you!

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