



December 30, 2024

Re: Assembly Bill 1203 (AB1203) & Assembly Bill 235 (AB235)

Dear Administrator,

Molina Healthcare of California (Molina) is committed to providing quality health care services to our members.

This notification serves as a reminder that California Health & Safety (H&S) Code Section 1262.8 requires a non-contracted hospital to contact a patient's health plan for authorization prior to providing post-stabilization care to a patient following an emergency condition. In addition, H&S Code Section 1317.4(a) requires hospitals to notify health care service plans if a patient is transferred during a psychiatric admission. For members transferred during a psychiatric admission, the hospital to which the patient was transferred shall notify Molina of the transfer.

With limited exception, post stabilization requests occur at the time when it is deemed appropriate for the member to be admitted, which usually occurs in close proximity to the time emergency services are rendered. Molina provides 24-hour access to members and providers, so that they can obtain timely authorization for medically necessary post stabilization services as cited in H&S Code Sections 1262.8(i) and 1371.4.(a).

Molina responds to incoming telephonic and fax requests from the hospital for post stabilization services through its Emergency Department Support Unit (EDSU), as described below, consistent with the requirements of H&S Code section 1371.4.(j)(1). Contact with the EDSU will be considered a formal request that requires a determination for post-stabilization services and will be responded to within thirty (30) minutes. Please contact us to request authorization or notify when a patient is transferred during a psychiatric admission.

For EDSU, **please call:** (844) 9-MOLINA or (844) 966-5462

Fax clinical documentation to (877) MOLINA-5 or (877) 665-4625

Molina requires a diagnosis and other relevant clinical information to be available, to make a decision to authorize post-stabilization care. As a reminder, a patient is "stabilized" or "stabilization" has occurred when, in the opinion of the treating physician and surgeon, or other appropriate licensed persons acting within their scope of licensure under the supervision of a treating physician and surgeon, the patient's medical condition is such that, within reasonable medical probability, no material deterioration of the patient's condition is likely to result from, or occur during, the release or transfer of the patient as provided for in H&S Code Sections 1317.2, 1317.2a, or other pertinent statute. Notifications of admissions received from all hospitals outside of the post stabilization EDSU phone or fax number, where the hospital is not expecting a post stabilization admission determination communicated back within 30 minutes, will follow standard UM timeframes. Observation stays up to 72 hours do not require prior authorization and can be billed directly to Molina along with any related emergency room charges.

Molina appreciates your cooperation and support in forwarding the aforementioned information to applicable hospital staff members. If you have any questions during Business Hours: M-F – 8:30 AM – 5:30 PM, please contact Utilization Management at 1-844-557-8434. For after working hours, weekends, and holidays, call 1-844-966-5462.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. J. ...', written over a horizontal line.

Vice President of Network Management & Operations
Molina Healthcare of California