

## Chat Questions, January 2024

**Q: Blue Plus is already following “ASAM Criteria, 4th Edition” and is not following ASAM only they are following MCG guidelines. Should we be following 3rd edition or 4th edition? Shouldn't Blue Plus be following DHS guidelines (“ASAM Criteria, 3rd edition”)?**

Yes, there is language in the [Managed Care Organization \(MCO\) Model Contract](#) which references “ASAM Criteria, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition”. The contract also states that MCOs, “...must ensure that Utilization Management [UM] practices, if any, align with practices developed for Fee for Services’ [FFS] UM vendor.” DHS’ FFS vendor is currently utilizing “ASAM Criteria, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition.” DHS met with all MCO’s in a monthly meeting on January 31<sup>st</sup> to convey and clarify this information.

**Q: Can we have the link to this presentation sent to us or posted in the chat? I would like to watch this again and go over notes in preparation for these changes!**

- PowerPoint Presentation (PDF): [“The ASAM Criteria and the Future of Care” by R. Corey Waller, MD, MS](#)
- Video: [MARRCH 2023 Conference Keynote from R. Corey Waller, MD, MS](#)

**Q: The ASAM criteria states seven days of "structured" services per week yet we have been told that we need seven days of "licensed" services per week. I interpret "structured" services as services that could be provided by licensed and not licensed staff such as peers. I know this has come up several times, are there any plans for DHS to reconsider their take on licensed services seven days per week?**

Current language for a daily skilled treatment service seven days a week is aligned with “ASAM Criteria, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition” which is what was available at the time of bill drafting for the 2023 legislative session. Skilled treatment services are defined in [254B.01](#), subdivision 10.

**Q: Is there a distinction in “ASAM Criteria, 4th Edition” of hours or other requirements of programs discerning between adults and adolescents? For example, in past editions IOP was nine or more for adults and six or more for adolescents.**

“ASAM Criteria, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition” for adolescents is not published yet. ASAM received public comment on the [Adolescent and Transition Aged Youth Proposed Framework](#) until Feb. 2, 2024. ASAM anticipates releasing this version sometime in 2024. We will need to wait to see what is published to provide a response.

**Q: How do we claim a copy of the eBook? The email said to request from an authorized agent, but what about counties and tribes?**

Tribally licensed programs were prioritized in the first round of distribution of eBooks. Counties interested in receiving a copy of the digital version of “ASAM Criteria, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition” can email [1115demonstration.dhs@state.mn.us](mailto:1115demonstration.dhs@state.mn.us) to inquire about receiving a copy while supplies last.