



# The ASAM Criteria Navigator

**Increase consistency and streamline the medical review process for substance use disorder patients using The ASAM Criteria**

By converting The ASAM Criteria® into a structured, interactive tool focused on the needs of utilization management, we help you streamline and improve the medical review process for substance use disorder patients. This tool can help support alignment with CMS 1115 waiver requirements and state mandates.

**Exclusive access** – Only Optum offers interactive access to The ASAM Criteria for the purpose of utilization review and regulatory compliance through an exclusive partnership with the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM).

**Seamless workflow integration** – The ASAM Criteria are seamlessly integrated into your existing care management workflow to create a structured, interactive tool that helps streamline the medical review process. This works with all InterQual® cloud solutions, including Medical Review Service, Anonymous Review, Online, Mobile or Transparency. Integration with payer's provider portals is also available for more efficient authorizations.

**Structured Q&A format** – Easy-to-use Q&A format helps improve efficiency and consistency. Start with the level of care requested, and the algorithm will lead you to a recommendation as to whether that level is appropriate, along with services to address co-occurring conditions or disorders a patient may have. Complete reviews in less than 15 minutes and improve consistency between reviewers.

**Comprehensive content** – The criteria are consistent with The ASAM Criteria, including all 4th edition adult levels of care (10) and withdrawal management services. In the 4th edition, criteria captures the 5 dimensions of assessment required to determine level of care. The content continues to support the 3rd edition adolescent levels of care (8) and 6 dimensions of assessment.

**Supporting IRR tool and education** – Interrater Reliability testing is included to help provide consistency and accuracy of criteria application as required by NCQA, URAC or state regulations (payers). ASAM-approved supplemental in-depth education is available to support the transition to the 4th edition. This program is delivered via an on-demand webinar and is followed by an expert-led office hours session.

## ASAM levels of care

### For adult patients, 4th edition levels of care include:






- 4.0 Medically Managed Inpatient
- 3.7 Medically Managed Residential
- 3.5 Clinically Managed High-Intensity Residential
- 3.1 Clinically Managed Low-Intensity Residential
- 2.7 Medically Managed Intensive Outpatient
- 2.5 High-Intensity Outpatient
- 2.1 Intensive Outpatient
- 1.7 Medically Managed Outpatient
- 1.5 Outpatient Therapy
- 1.0 Long-Term Readmission Monitoring

### For adolescent patients, 3rd edition levels of care include:

- 4.0 Medically Managed Intensive Inpatient Services
- 3.7 Medically Monitored High-Intensity Inpatient Services
- 3.5 Clinically Managed Medium-Intensity Residential Services
- 3.1 Clinically Managed Low-Intensity Residential Services
- 2.5 Partial Hospitalization Services
- 2.1 Intensive Outpatient Services
- 1 Outpatient Services
- 0.5 Early Intervention

# Clinical decision support across the continuum of care

## InterQual criteria and industry content

 Level of Care	 Behavioral Health	 Ambulatory Care Planning	 Industry Content	 Care Coordination
Acute Adult*	Adult and Geriatric Psychiatry	Procedures*	The ASAM Criteria®	Coordinated Care
Acute Pediatric*	Child and Adolescent Psychiatry	Imaging	Concert Genetics	Patient Education
Long-Term Acute Care*	Substance Use Disorders	Durable Medical Equipment*	Medicare Behavioral Health	
Inpatient Rehabilitation*	Behavioral Health Services	Molecular Diagnostics	Medicare Procedures*	
Subacute and Skilled Nursing*		Specialty Rx Non-Oncology	Medicare Imaging	
Home Care		Specialty Rx Oncology	Medicare Post-Acute and Durable Medical Equipment	
Outpatient Rehab and Chiropractic		Specialty Referral	Medicare Molecular Diagnostics and Lab	
		Retrospective Monitoring	Medicare Pharmacy	

\* Decision Reasons add-on available.

## Objective, specific and comprehensive clinical content

InterQual criteria are objective and specific, helping guide consistent, defensible decisions that ensure appropriate, quality care. The portfolio of 5 content suites offers comprehensive content that spans the continuum of care for medical and behavioral health.

## Rigorous, evidence-based development process

Our highly trained clinical development team performs an unbiased, systematic review and critical appraisal of the evidence using elements of the GRADE approach to help ensure InterQual criteria reflect the best available clinical evidence. No other criteria provide a higher level of accuracy and timeliness than InterQual. Developed with rigor and objectivity, InterQual criteria are updated frequently to remain current with the latest evidence.

## Extensive peer review

Our clinical review panel of more than 1,100 independent, multidisciplinary experts provides extensive, multilevel peer review. For situations that do not lend themselves to accepted research methods, larger and more geographically dispersed groups of clinical experts are used to establish best practices that reflect the current standard of care.

InterQual is used by:

**4,300+**  
provider organizations

**300+**  
payer organizations

**100%**  
RACs, MACs, CMS and  
BFCC-QIOs

The ASAM Criteria is a registered trademark of the American Society of Addiction Medicine.



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