



Section: SAPT	Policy Name: Transportation to Substance Use Disorder Treatment	Policy Number: 11.22
Owner: Director of Utilization Management	Reviewed By: Joel Smith, SUPT Director	Total Pages: 5
Required By: <input type="checkbox"/> BBA <input type="checkbox"/> MDHHS <input type="checkbox"/> NCQA <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): <hr/>	Final Approval By: Elizabeth Guisinger, UM Director  <small>Elizabeth Guisinger Nov 4, 2024 08:18 EST</small>	Date Approved: Nov 4, 2024
Application: <input type="checkbox"/> SWMBH Staff/Ops <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Participant CMHSPs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SUD Providers <input type="checkbox"/> MH/IDD Providers <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): <hr/>	Line of Business: <input type="checkbox"/> Medicaid <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> Healthy Michigan _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SUD Block Grant <input type="checkbox"/> SUD Medicaid <input type="checkbox"/> MI Health Link	Effective Date: 05/01/2017

Policy: It shall be the policy of Southwest Michigan Behavioral Health (SWMBH) to ensure coordinated, medically necessary transportation services that are welcoming and provide prompt, responsive, and timely access to sub-acute withdrawal management and residential services to those customers who do not have Michigan Medicaid, are uninsured, and demonstrate medical necessity. Transportation services funded by SWMBH will only be approved for uninsured individuals after all other transportation options have been exhausted, and as Substance Use Block Grant (SUBG) funds are available.

Purpose: SWMBH’s intention is to reduce or eliminate barriers and increase customer access to substance use disorder (SUD) treatment and recovery services for uninsured individuals who do not have a Medicaid Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) benefit in the most efficient, user-friendly, welcoming, and cost-effective manner as possible. While transportation service to withdrawal management and residential services is not a guaranteed benefit, SWMBH does have limited SUBG availability to provide this service for those in need.

Scope: SUD Providers
SWMBH’s Utilization Management and Claims Departments



Responsibilities:

SWMBH's UM Staff are expected to review all provider documentation submitted with the service authorization request for transportation reimbursement.

SWMBH's Finance Staff are expected to ensure claims are paid out of SUBG Funds when there is no Medicaid Health Plan or local MDHHS office to cover Non-Emergency Medical Transportation for uninsured individuals residing in region 4.

SUD Provider Staff are expected to only request service authorization transportation requests for individuals who meet eligibility criteria for transportation services, as defined in this policy.

Definitions: None

Standards and Guidelines:

- A. Effective October 1, 2024, Medicaid Health Plans (MHP) are required to cover all NEMT for any Medicaid-covered service, including trips for specialty behavioral health services, which is inclusive of substance use disorder treatment. Transportation should be arranged through the MHP or the MHP's transportation vendor. For individuals who have not been assigned a MHP, the NEMT benefit can be accessed through their local MDHHS office.
- B. For uninsured individuals, SUBG funds may be authorized for non-emergency medical transport to a SUD provider for sub-acute withdrawal management and/or residential treatment services, the individual must meet the following criterion:
 - 1. Have no medical insurance of any kind (i.e., Medicaid, Medicare, Commercial Employee Plans, Marketplace, etc.)
 - 2. Exhausted all other transportation options
 - 3. Have no personal financial means to procure own transportation
- C. Transportation needs must be medically necessary as identified during the screening and assessment process.
- D. The need for and use of transportation must be documented in the customer record and include the following:
 - 1. Date of service/transportation
 - 2. Rationale/exploration of other transportation options
 - 3. Location of anticipated departure and location of arrival
 - 4. Actual or estimated cost
- E. Non-sub-capitated SUD providers:
 - 1. All transportation [Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) and Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) service codes] must be authorized by SWMBH.
 - 2. Purchased bus and/or train tickets must be refundable and should be for one-way. In the event the ticket is not used, SWMBH will reimburse the provider the full amount (ticket and additional fee for reimbursable status). If the provider



purchases a non-refundable ticket, the provider will not be reimbursed for the cost of the ticket if the ticket is not used.

- F. Sub-capitated Community Mental Health Service Providers may authorize the use of SUBG funds for transportation of individuals who are uninsured and meeting eligibility criteria, but are subject to:
 - 1. Ensuring transportation is medically necessary, and is documented in the record as such
 - 2. Purchasing only refundable bus and/or train tickets
 - 3. Documentation in the customer record as outlined in (D)
 - 4. Compliance with the maximum cost per code, as outlined in (L)
- G. The least costly method of transportation must be used.
- H. Transportation can occur from any point in the community to the provider location.
- I. Return transportation assistance from the sub-acute withdrawal management/residential treatment facility may be available upon the customer's successful completion of the detox and/or residential program, and to an appointment for the next level of care directly, or within one (1) business day of discharge.
- J. Additional SUD residential treatment and/or Room & Board authorization requests will not be approved due to transportation not being arranged timely with the Medicaid Health Plan or local MDHHS office.
- K. Providers must have their own internal policies and procedures outlining how transportation will be arranged within their organization.
- L. Contracted codes and limitations:
 - 1. A0100 HF – Non-Emergency Taxi Transportation - \$150 maximum
 - 2. A0110 HF – Non-Emergency Bus Transportation - \$150 maximum
 - 3. S0215 HF – Non-Emergency Mileage – IRS reimbursable rate per mile – 500 miles/day
- M. If a provider staff (i.e., Peer, Case Manager, etc.) transports the customer to the mode of transportation to the detox/residential facility (bus station, train station, etc.), the service can be billed if they are utilizing the service as defined in the customer's treatment plan.
- N. Mileage cannot be reimbursed to the provider staff, if the provider will also be claiming the service (Peer, Case Management, etc.) for the same encounter.
- O. Necessary routine transportation provided during the episode of care is included as part of the residential service and cannot be authorized separately.
- P. Transportation to all SUD treatment services, including Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) dosing, is the responsibility of the Medicaid Health Plans or Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) for all Michigan Medicaid/Healthy Michigan Plan beneficiaries.



References:

- A. Michigan Medicaid Manual, Behavioral Health and Intellectual and Developmental Disability Supports and Services Chapter
- B. Michigan Medicaid Manual, Non-Emergency Medical Transportation Chapter
- C. MHP NEMT Contact and Process <https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/-/media/Project/Websites/mdhhs/Assistance-Programs/Medicaid-BPHASA/Other-Prov-Specific-Page-Docs/MHP-NEMT-Contact-and-Process.pdf?rev=9743f391e8c24a74b7c3ab6f5aba191c&hash=70FCDF8BAC05F291F2EF7C6486A2875>

Attachments:

- A. None

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Final Audit Report

2024-11-04

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