



# PROVIDER ALERT

## State-Approved SUD Assessment

October 28, 2019

**Alert Summary:** This alert details changes in SUD Assessment requirements for Optum providers.

Dear Provider,

The Idaho Department of Health and Welfare's Division of Behavioral Health (DBH) has announced a change regarding the state-approved Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Assessment (see attached communication from DBH). Effective January 1, 2020, when a substance use concern is identified, the provider must assess the member using the six American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) dimensions as outlined below. DBH is no longer mandating the use of one specific SUD assessment tool.

### What is changing in the Idaho Behavioral Health Plan (IBHP)

- Optum Idaho will revise the Provider Manual and other documentation which specify that the Global Appraisal of Individual Need (GAIN) is the required tool to specify that the Comprehensive Diagnostic Assessment (CDA), with ASAM information, meets the requirements for a SUD assessment in the IBHP, effective January 1, 2020.
  - Optum will notify providers of these document changes per usual processes.
- When a substance use concern is identified during the assessment process, the provider must include the six ASAM dimensions in their CDA. The ASAM assessment and placement determination must be completed by an individual trained in the ASAM criteria multidimensional assessment process and level of care placement decision making. An example of an available training can be found at [changecompanies.net/etraining](http://changecompanies.net/etraining).
  - Dimension 1 – Acute Intoxication and/or Withdrawal Potential
  - Dimension 2 – Biomedical Conditions and Complications
  - Dimension 3 – Emotional, Behavioral, or Cognitive Conditions and Complications
  - Dimension 4 – Readiness to Change
  - Dimension 5 – Relapse, Continued Use, or Continued Problem Potential
  - Dimension 6 – Recovery/Living Environment.
- The unit limit on the GAIN will change from 12 units to 20 units.

### What is not changing in the IBHP

- Optum Idaho will continue to reimburse providers for the administration of the GAIN and other assessment tools.
- If a provider identifies the need to administer a specialized assessment to further understand the member's substance use concerns, the provider may administer the GAIN or another specialized SUD assessment tool.
- The CDA is required for all members.
- The Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) assessment tool is required for all members under age 19.

For questions about this change, please reach out to the Network team at [optum\\_idaho\\_network@optum.com](mailto:optum_idaho_network@optum.com).

Thank you,

The Optum Idaho Team