



Provider Notice

From: Magellan Healthcare

Subject: Magellan Care Guidelines update takes effect Nov. 7, 2025

Attention: Updated Magellan Care Guidelines for Idaho Behavioral Health Plan (IBHP)

Overview

The updated [Magellan Care Guidelines \(MCG\) for the Idaho Behavioral Health Plan \(IBHP\)](#) have been updated and will be effective Nov. 7, 2025. The 2025-2026 version continues to include: Magellan Healthcare Guidelines for IBHP, the 29th edition MCG Behavioral Health Care Guidelines developed by MCG Health® and The ASAM Criteria®, 3rd edition. These guidelines can be found on [MagellanofIdaho.com](#) on the [For Providers](#) page under [Clinical Guidelines](#). From there, click the [Medical Necessity Criteria](#) link.

Summary of changes

1. **MCG Behavioral Health Guidelines: update from 28th edition to 29th edition content**
2. **IBHP: Assertive Community Treatment-ACT:**
 - Revise “severe and persistent” to “**serious** and persistent”
 - Remove specific priority diagnoses for ACT (to reduce confusion with state definition of serious mental illness)
 - No other revisions to criteria.
3. **IBHP: Skills-Building Community-Based Rehabilitative-CBRS:**
 - Required assessments clarified as 1) the Comprehensive Diagnostic Assessment (CDA) for both youth and adults and 2) an updated Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths Assessment (CANS) for youth.
 - Individualized skill building treatment plan updated within the previous ninety (90) days was added to the clinical indications. Also: plan must include measurable and observable goals, any relevant barriers to progress, progress made towards existing goals and strategies to address barriers.
4. **Magellan Healthcare: Psychological Testing**
Magellan Healthcare: Neuropsychological Testing
 - No changes to *Indications*
 - Changes to Exclusions:

- Remove: exclusion for testing performed when abnormalities of brain function are not suspected; exclusion to testing primarily for diagnosing Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
- Clarify: exclusion of testing for candidacy for medical/surgical procedures when testing doesn't inform treatment, care of behavioral health issues.

All other clinical guidelines currently in use for IBHP, including MCG modified guidelines and IBHP clinical guidelines, were approved for 2025-2026.

Questions

Please contact Magellan Provider Services at IdahoProvider@MagellanHealth.com.