



Policy: Swing Bed Admission Criteria

Policy Number: 607-0006

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PURPOSE: To define parameters to place a person into a swing bed designation.

Swing bed designation is used for short-term skilled nursing care or skilled rehabilitation services. The expected length of stay shall be less than 100 days.

Swing bed designation shall not be used for non-skilled or custodial care services.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

Financial requirements: Needs to meet one of the following:

Medicare

- Enrolled in Medicare Part A
- Has benefit days available to use
- Three day qualifying acute inpatient admission
- Within 30 days of discharge from an acute care facility
- Qualifying medical condition
- Requires daily skilled nursing services or skilled rehabilitation which can only be provided in a skilled nursing facility or swing bed.

Medicaid (co-pay)

- Enrolled in Washington State Medicaid program
- Qualifying medical condition
- Requires daily skilled nursing services or skilled rehabilitation which can only be provided in a skilled nursing facility or swing bed.
- If admitted from home, pre-authorization needs to be obtained from DSHS Home and Community Services Caseworker

Private pay with or without secondary insurance

- Qualifying medical condition



- Requires daily skilled nursing services or skilled rehabilitation which can only be provided in a skilled nursing facility or swing bed.

Private (commercial) Insurance

- Pre authorization
- Qualifying medical condition
- Requires daily skilled nursing services or skilled rehabilitation which can only be provided in a skilled nursing facility or swing bed.

DEFINITIONS:

Qualifying condition

Requires and receives daily Skilled Nursing Services &/or Skilled Rehabilitation Therapies

- Daily in terms of skilled nursing requires skilled nursing care 7 days/week
- Daily in terms of skilled rehab therapies may be translated to 5 days/week if the services are not available 7 days per week and skilled rehab is the only reason for admission.

Skilled nursing and/or skilled rehabilitation services are services that:

- Are ordered by a physician
- Require the skills of a qualified technical or health professional
- Must be provided directly by or under the general supervision of skilled personnel to ensure patient safety and achieve desired results
- May require skilled personnel to perform or supervise because of special medical conditions

Practical Matter

As a “practical matter” the services can only be provided on an inpatient basis in a Swing Bed or Skilled Nursing Facility. The following may be used as requirements for designation for practical matter:

- Individual’s condition
- Availability of other types of services
- Feasibility of using other types of services
- Excessive physical hardship
- Less economical
- Less efficient or effective
- Limited support system