


Name of Policy: <u>Patient Status Assignment</u> Policy Number: 3364-100-50-43 Department: Hospital Administration Approving Officer: Vice President & Executive Director Chief of Staff Responsible Agent: Vice President & Executive Director Scope: The University of Toledo Medical Center and its Medical Staff	 Effective Date: March 25, 2009 Initial Effective Date: 3/25/2009
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New policy proposal <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision of existing policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor/technical revision of existing policy <input type="checkbox"/> Reaffirmation of existing policy

(A) Policy Statement

Resource Utilization Coordinators will determine the appropriate patient status dependent upon medical necessity, physicians plan of care, Interqual criteria, and "Medicare Inpatient Only" list. The Resource Utilization Coordinators will be acting under the authority of the Resource Utilization Committee.

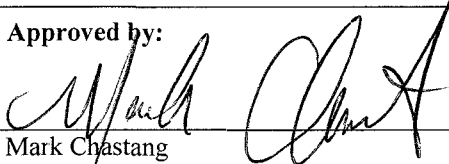
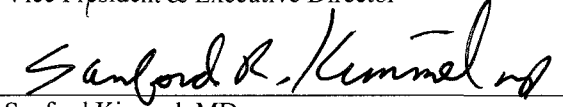
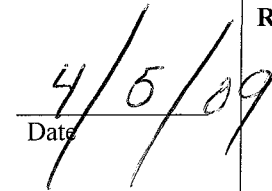
(B) Purpose of Policy

Insure that accurate documentation reflects the hospital care provided.

(C) Procedure

1. Medical records will be reviewed by the Resource Utilization Coordinators (RUCs). If the patient status needs to be changed, a Patient Status Change Order form will be completed. This order form requires a physician's signature.
2. The physician may write for the Resource Utilization Coordinator to determine the patient status by writing an order, ie: "Admit status per Resource Utilization Coordinator." In this case, the RUC will write a patient status assignment in the physician orders.
3. Interqual criteria and the Medicare Inpatient Only list will be the basis for status determination. Medicare billing rules will apply to chemotherapy, transfusions and use of a bed to recover from a procedure.
4. When a patient's medical record is not reviewed by a Resource Utilization Coordinator within 3 business days and discharged, the original Physician order for status will remain until a retrospective review occurs. The Resource Utilization Coordinators will apply Medicare/Medicaid rules for government payors in regards to status changes after discharge.
5. If the patient's medical record has not been reviewed by a Resource Utilization Coordinator within three business days and hospitalization continues, the original Physician order for status will remain until review occurs. Status change for Medicare/Medicaid patients to Inpatient Admission will be effective at the time the Patient Status Change Order is written. Status change for Medicare/Medicaid patients to Observation Admission will be retroactive to the admission time and date.
6. If the physician disagrees with the status change, the RUC will refer the case to the Physician Advisor.
 - a. The Physician Advisor will review the medical record and confer with the attending physician. If disagreement continues then the case will be referred to the Resource Utilization Committee.
 - b. Two physician members of the Resource Utilization Committee will review the medical record and confer with the attending physician.
 - c. The Resource Utilization Committee will then make a decision. The attending physician and the Resource Utilization Coordinator will be notified of this final decision.
7. If admission to the hospital or continued stay is determined to be unnecessary, the RUC will inform the physician. If the physician disagrees with this determination, then the same process for disagreement with patient status change will

occur. If the Resource Utilization Committee's final determination is that the stay is not medically necessary, the attending physician, patient, facility administrator and the government agency will receive written notification no later than 2 days after the final determination.

Approved by:  Mark Chastang Vice President & Executive Director	 Sanford Kimmel, MD Chief of Staff	 Date 4/5/09	Review/Revision Date:
<i>Review/Revision Completed By:</i> Outcome Management HAS Chief of Staff			Next Review Date: 3/1/2012
Policies Superseded by This Policy: New			

It is the responsibility of the reader to verify with the responsible agent that this is the most current version of the policy.