

Bridge on Discharge Session (BOD) Frequently Asked Questions

This information applies to in-network facilities contracted to provide the BOD services

Providing the Session

- **Q: Where and when should the Bridge session occur?**
A: The Bridge session is provided immediately after discharge, in the facility, but not on the inpatient unit.
- **Q: Who can provide a Bridge session?**
A: The Bridge session must be provided by a facility-employed staff person who is a licensed mental health provider, and may include a registered nurse, counselor, therapist, social worker, psychologist or physician. They do not need to be independently contracted with Optum.
- **Q: Is there any clinical documentation that needs to be sent in by the facility?**
A: Yes. The *Bridge on Discharge Form* is accessible at providerexpress.com and should be completed, signed and promptly faxed to Optum using the number at the top of the form. File the form in the patient's medical record.

Authorization/Eligibility

- **Q: Does the Bridge session need to be authorized by Optum?**
A: No. Separate authorization is not required for this service.
- **Q: Can someone with a substance use disorder diagnosis have a Bridge session?**
A: Yes. This service is available to all patients leaving your facility, regardless of age or diagnosis.
- **Q: If a patient is discharged to partial hospitalization or intensive outpatient (IOP) at the same facility, are they eligible for a Bridge session?**
A: Yes. This service is available to all patients leaving your facility.

Billing

- **Q: Does the patient have any financial responsibility for this service?**
A: No. The patient is not financially responsible for this service. In addition, the Bridge session does not impact the patient's outpatient benefit limits, where applicable.
- **Q: How should the Bridge session be billed?**
A: The Bridge session service must be coded as an 0513 revenue code on the same UB04 inpatient claim form as a separate line item (day of discharge line). You should not submit a separate claim form for the Bridge session.
- **Q: Will Optum pay for a missed Bridge session?**
A: No. The facility cannot bill Optum or the patient for missed Bridge sessions.
- **Q: Is it ok to bill more than one Bridge session for the same patient for the same episode of inpatient care?**
A: No. This is a one-time only appointment that is to occur immediately following discharge from the inpatient level of care.