KAISER PERMANENTE®

Northwest Region Utilization Review

UR 77: Kaiser Permanente at Home Admission Guideline

Department: Kaiser Permanente at Home	Effective: 2/1/2022
Section: KPNW Region	Last Reviewed/Approved: 1/23, 1/24, 1/25, 2/26
Applies to: KPNW Region	
Review Responsibility: Derrick Lee, MD, Hospital Medicine	

MEDICAL NECESSITY CRITERIA AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS FOR KAISER PERMANENTE AT HOME

DEFINITIONS: Kaiser Permanente at Home is a patient-centered program designed to provide hospital-level acute care and clinical services to members with certain diagnoses at home. This program enables patients with acute conditions requiring hospital care to receive care in the comfort of their home with 24/7 access to their care team.

CRITERIA-

Clinical: The program will include patients with acute conditions requiring hospital care and patients at high risk for episodes that could lead to readmission. Patients identified as eligible candidates must meet inpatient criteria.

Patients will be ineligible for Kaiser Permanente at Home if one or more of the following occur:

1. They have unstable or rapidly changing vital signs; or
2. The patient meets criteria for sepsis with end organ dysfunction that is not improving or has not already resolved; or
3. The primary diagnosis driving possible inpatient admission is unclear; or
4. Patient has active substance abuse issues; or
5. Patient has unstable housing; or
6. Eligibility is also based on the clinical team's overall assessment of the patient's needs and whether those needs can be safely met in the patient's home

OTHER REQUIREMENTS-

Decisions for accepting patients for care are based on medical, nursing, therapy, and social information provided by the physician responsible for the patient's care and is determined after assessing the member's unique medical condition. Decisions are made by institutional personnel and staff of the Kaiser Permanente at Home program.

Geographic Requirements: Patients must live in a location reachable by an emergency response team within 30 minutes and have access to consistent and reliable internet and cellular service.

Social: Eligibility is also based on the clinical team's overall assessment of the patient's needs and whether those needs can be safely met in the patient's home.

Patients have access to the following to ensure an environment that optimizes their care and recovery:

- A home-type setting
- Water, electricity, bathroom, heat/ac, refrigerator
- A feeling of safety
- Family and/or caregiver who are willing to participate, as needed, during the Kaiser Permanente at Home episode of care
- A person in the home (patient or other) willing/able to take vital signs and answer phone calls
- A willingness, and location, to secure pets while staff are in the home
- A willingness and ability to participate in the program, including allowing staff to enter their home and set up equipment
- A willingness (patient or HCP) to sign consent

SPECIAL GROUP CONSIDERATIONS

For Medicare Members

Source	Policy
CMS Coverage Manuals	None
National Coverage Determinations (NCD)	None
Local Coverage Determinations (LCD)	None
Local Coverage Article	None
Kaiser Permanente Medical Policy	Due to the absence of a NCD or LCD, Kaiser Permanente has chosen to use their own Clinical Review Criteria, "Kaiser Permanente at Home Admission Guideline" for medical necessity determinations.

Commercial: Included (not included for HDHP HSA plans or visiting members)
Washington Medicaid: Not included
Oregon Medicaid: Not included

CLINICAL

MCG, Inpatient Care Guidelines, current edition