

# InterQual Criteria Manual 2022



## InterQual® Criteria

Support Clinicians With Comprehensive,  
Evidence-Based Clinical Criteria

The InterQual Criteria portfolio offers comprehensive clinical decision support designed to strengthen patient outcomes and reinforce appropriate utilization by providing access to evidence-based clinical criteria. Detailed decision support is delivered across the continuum of care through specialized modules organized into four content suites.

InterQual Criteria Portfolio			
Level of Care	Behavioral Health	Ambulatory Care Planning	Powered by InterQual
Acute Adult	Adult and Geriatric Psychiatry	Procedures	Medicare Procedures
Acute Pediatric	Child and Adolescent Psychiatry	Imaging	Medicare Imaging
Long-Term Acute Care	Substance Use Disorders	Durable Medical Equipment	Medicare Durable Medical Equipment
Inpatient Rehabilitation	Behavioral Health Services	Molecular Diagnostics	Medicare Molecular Diagnostics and Lab
Subacute and Skilled Nursing		Specialty Rx: Oncology	Medicare Pharmacy
Home Care		Specialty Rx: Non-Oncology	Medicare Behavioral Health
Outpatient Rehab and Chiropractic		Specialty Referral	Proprietary Third-Party Content
		Retrospective Monitoring	

### Customize Your Criteria

InterQual Customize is a content creation and editing solution that lets you author your own care management guidelines or customize existing InterQual Criteria to meet your organization's unique medical and business needs.

Custom policies can be published alongside the InterQual Criteria to create a single workflow within your utilization management solution. Cloud-based InterQual delivery platforms give providers seamless access to your customized policies and criteria.

This capability helps reduce the administrative burden for both payers and providers, and improves collaboration by increasing care criteria transparency.

Change Healthcare also offers customization services. Clinical and product experts can execute your custom medical policies within your InterQual workflow, providing product expertise and saving your organization time.

### Clinical Integrity

The clinical criteria populating each module are updated at least once annually and are produced through a rigorous process grounded in the principles of evidence-based medicine. Criteria development is conducted by a clinical team that includes physicians, registered nurses, and allied health professionals. The team relies on systematic, critical appraisal of the medical literature using elements of the Grading of Recommendations, Assessment, Development and Evaluation (GRADE) approach. Draft criteria are subjected to systematic scrutiny by our InterQual Clinical Review Panel of more than 1,000 independent, multidisciplinary experts.

**InterQual Criteria Manual 2022** serves as a vital resource for healthcare professionals, insurers, and organizations striving to ensure that patients receive the most appropriate level of care while maximizing resources. The manual presents a comprehensive, evidence-based framework aimed at guiding clinical decision-making and optimizing patient outcomes. This article delves into the core components of the InterQual Criteria Manual 2022, its significance in healthcare, and how it can be effectively utilized by various stakeholders.

## Understanding InterQual Criteria

InterQual Criteria are a set of clinical decision support tools developed by McKesson Corporation. These criteria are designed to assist healthcare professionals in determining the medical necessity, appropriateness, and

efficiency of healthcare services. The manual is updated regularly to reflect the latest clinical guidelines, medical evidence, and best practices, ensuring that it remains relevant and effective.

## **Key Features of the InterQual Criteria Manual 2022**

1. **Evidence-Based Guidelines:** The criteria are grounded in the latest medical research, clinical guidelines, and expert consensus. This ensures that the recommendations align with current best practices.
2. **Comprehensive Coverage:** The manual covers a wide range of medical conditions, procedures, and treatments, making it applicable across various specialties and healthcare settings.
3. **User-Friendly Format:** The criteria are presented in a clear, concise format, allowing healthcare providers to quickly access the information they need.
4. **Integration with Technology:** The InterQual Criteria can be integrated into electronic health records and clinical decision support systems, facilitating seamless use in real-time patient care.

## **Importance of InterQual Criteria in Healthcare**

The InterQual Criteria Manual 2022 plays a significant role in enhancing the quality and efficiency of healthcare services. Its importance can be highlighted through several key aspects:

### **1. Enhancing Patient Care**

By utilizing the InterQual Criteria, healthcare providers can ensure that patients receive the most appropriate level of care for their specific conditions. This helps in:

- Reducing unnecessary procedures and hospitalizations
- Ensuring timely access to necessary treatments
- Promoting evidence-based practices that lead to better patient outcomes

### **2. Supporting Clinical Decision-Making**

The criteria provide a structured approach to clinical decision-making, which can help healthcare professionals:

- Justify treatment plans and interventions
- Support their clinical judgment with evidence-based recommendations
- Communicate effectively with patients and families about care options

### **3. Improving Resource Utilization**

By guiding appropriate use of healthcare resources, the InterQual Criteria can contribute to:

- Decreasing healthcare costs by minimizing unnecessary interventions
- Enhancing operational efficiency within healthcare organizations
- Supporting value-based care initiatives by focusing on patient outcomes rather than volume of services provided

### **4. Facilitating Compliance and Accreditation**

Healthcare providers must adhere to various regulatory standards and accreditation requirements. The InterQual Criteria assist in:

- Demonstrating compliance with payer requirements for medical necessity
- Supporting quality improvement initiatives within healthcare organizations
- Providing documentation that can be used for audits and reviews

## **Core Components of the InterQual Criteria Manual 2022**

The InterQual Criteria Manual 2022 is organized into several key components, each designed to address different aspects of patient care.

### **1. Criteria for Inpatient Care**

The manual outlines specific criteria for various inpatient services, including:

- Admission criteria for different medical and surgical conditions
- Guidelines for length of stay based on clinical conditions
- Discharge planning criteria to ensure safe transitions of care

### **2. Criteria for Outpatient Services**

In addition to inpatient care, the manual provides criteria for outpatient services, such as:

- Evaluation and management services
- Diagnostic procedures
- Surgical interventions performed in an outpatient setting

### **3. Criteria for Behavioral Health Services**

Recognizing the importance of mental health, the InterQual Criteria Manual includes guidelines for:

- Inpatient psychiatric admissions
- Outpatient therapy services
- Substance use disorder treatment

## **4. Criteria for Rehabilitation Services**

Rehabilitation services are critical for patients recovering from surgery, illness, or injury. The manual includes criteria for:

- Admission and continued stay in rehabilitation facilities
- Assessment of functional improvement
- Discharge planning and follow-up care

## **Utilization of the InterQual Criteria Manual 2022**

The effective utilization of the InterQual Criteria Manual 2022 requires a collaborative approach involving various stakeholders in the healthcare system.

### **1. Healthcare Providers**

Physicians, nurses, and other healthcare professionals can utilize the manual to:

- Assess patient needs and determine appropriate treatment plans
- Communicate effectively with patients about their care options
- Document medical necessity for reimbursement purposes

### **2. Payers and Insurers**

Insurance companies and payers can leverage the InterQual Criteria to:

- Evaluate claims for medical necessity
- Establish coverage policies based on evidence-based guidelines
- Support value-based payment models that prioritize patient outcomes

### **3. Healthcare Organizations**

Hospitals and healthcare systems can implement the criteria to:

- Improve care coordination and transitions of care
- Train staff on evidence-based practices and guidelines
- Monitor and improve quality of care through data analysis

## **4. Policymakers and Regulators**

Policymakers can utilize the InterQual Criteria to:

- Develop regulations and standards that promote quality care
- Ensure that healthcare systems are held accountable for patient outcomes
- Support initiatives aimed at reducing healthcare disparities

## **Challenges and Considerations**

While the InterQual Criteria Manual 2022 offers numerous benefits, there are challenges and considerations that stakeholders must keep in mind:

### **1. Adaptation to Rapidly Changing Evidence**

Healthcare is a constantly evolving field, and it can be challenging to keep the criteria updated with the latest evidence. Continuous review and adaptation are essential to maintain relevance.

### **2. User Training and Engagement**

Healthcare providers must be adequately trained to utilize the InterQual Criteria effectively. Engaging staff through education and training programs is crucial for successful implementation.

### **3. Balancing Clinical Judgment and Guidelines**

While the criteria provide valuable guidance, healthcare professionals must also rely on their clinical judgment. Balancing adherence to guidelines with individualized patient care is essential for optimal outcomes.

## **Conclusion**

The InterQual Criteria Manual 2022 is an invaluable resource for enhancing the quality of care in the healthcare system. By providing evidence-based guidelines for medical necessity, appropriateness, and efficiency, it helps healthcare providers, payers, and organizations make informed decisions that ultimately benefit patients. While challenges exist, the ongoing commitment to utilizing and updating these criteria will play a significant role in advancing healthcare practices and improving patient outcomes.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

## **What is the InterQual Criteria Manual 2022?**

The InterQual Criteria Manual 2022 is a set of evidence-based clinical guidelines that provide healthcare professionals with standardized criteria to determine the appropriateness of patient care across various settings.

## **Who uses the InterQual Criteria Manual?**

The InterQual Criteria Manual is used by healthcare providers, payers, case managers, and utilization review professionals to ensure that patient care decisions are aligned with best practices and clinical guidelines.

## **What are the key updates in the InterQual Criteria Manual 2022?**

The 2022 edition includes updates based on the latest clinical evidence, changes in medical practice, and enhancements in usability features to improve accessibility and user experience.

## **How does the InterQual Criteria Manual support care decisions?**

The manual supports care decisions by providing criteria that help assess the medical necessity, appropriateness, and efficiency of services, thereby assisting in reducing unnecessary healthcare costs.

## **Is the InterQual Criteria Manual applicable across all medical specialties?**

Yes, the InterQual Criteria Manual covers a wide range of medical specialties, making it versatile for use in various clinical settings including inpatient, outpatient, and behavioral health.

## **How can healthcare organizations integrate the InterQual Criteria Manual into their processes?**

Healthcare organizations can integrate the manual by training staff on its use, incorporating it into electronic health record systems, and utilizing it in clinical decision-making and utilization review processes.

## **Are there any training resources available for the InterQual Criteria Manual?**

Yes, there are various training resources available, including online courses, webinars, and user guides provided by the creators of the InterQual Criteria Manual to help users effectively apply the criteria.

## **What is the impact of using the InterQual Criteria Manual on patient care?**

Using the InterQual Criteria Manual can lead to improved patient care by ensuring that treatment decisions are based on the most current evidence, thus enhancing patient outcomes and satisfaction.

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## **Interqual Criteria Manual 2022**

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*79 Prepositions of place, Picture description, Speaking Prac...*

A fairly basic practice of the prepositions of place and the present continuous tense. I start this off by looking at the picture and giving them some speaking practice wit...

### **Preposition Picture Cards (teacher made) - Twinkl**

Simple prepositions - used to describe a location, time or place with prepositions such as at, for, in, off, on, over, and under. Double prepositions - two simple prepositions used together, often indicating direction.

*Prepositions with Pictures for Kids - 7ESL*

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### **Prepositions of Place Fun Grammar Lessons ESL Library**

This English sentence pattern is often used to describe the location of objects: There + is + a + [noun] + [preposition] + the + [noun].

Prepositions of place with pictures - EasyPaceLearning

Learning about prepositions of place using pictures with short examples of using in a sentence. English grammar lesson.

### **Prepositions of place exercises with pictures | PDF - SlideShare**

Oct 19, 2014 · This document provides a classroom picture and sentences to complete using prepositions of place such as "under, behind, in front of, on, over, in, between". The picture shows furniture and objects in a classroom like a bag under a chair, a clock on a desk, a vase in front of a cupboard, flowers in a vase, a cupboard between a door and shelf, an apple on a book, a ...

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Look at the picture and answer the question.

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### **Preposition Picture Description Cards (teacher made) - Twinkl**

This beautifully illustrated set of Preposition Picture Description Cards is a great resource to use to support children's understanding of positional language. Each card features a picture for children to look at and a sentence which children can complete using a preposition to describe the picture. These cards could be used in a maths lesson about position and direction, or in a ...

### Prepositions in English with Pictures and Exercises

Prepositions in English with Pictures and Exercises List of Prepositions in English is a good start to learn how to use them. Some examples are the words such as "in", "on", "about", "for" etc. They function so as to link nouns, pronouns and phrases to other words. They can describe place, time, manner or purpose.

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### *Prepositions of Place Exercises With Pictures | PDF - Scribd*

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### 9 Prepositions of place, Picture description, Speaking Pract...

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