



December 17, 2020

RE: Coronavirus –Extension of Benefit for Acute Crisis Units

Behavioral Health Providers,

Effective December 3, 2020, Empower will be following the DMS Extension of Benefit for Acute Crisis Units during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, suspending the Acute Crisis Unit benefit limits of 96 hours per encounter, one encounter per month, and 6 encounters per state fiscal year.

To see the DMS memorandum click here:

[https://humanservices.arkansas.gov/images/uploads/resources/Memorandum\\_DMS-45\\_Extension\\_of\\_Benefit\\_Acute\\_Crisis\\_Unit.Final\\_.docx](https://humanservices.arkansas.gov/images/uploads/resources/Memorandum_DMS-45_Extension_of_Benefit_Acute_Crisis_Unit.Final_.docx)

To see a summary of all COVID-19 provider alerts for Empower, including billing information:

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1UhNQiFWv1dgg6C74x5tw5U2zMt1euaNik2zAO2vxl\\_Y/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1UhNQiFWv1dgg6C74x5tw5U2zMt1euaNik2zAO2vxl_Y/edit?usp=sharing)

The allowable code for this rule suspension is:

- Acute Crisis Unit
  - H0018 U4

If you have questions about this please contact [empowerhealthcaresolutionspr@empowerhcs.com](mailto:empowerhealthcaresolutionspr@empowerhcs.com)

Thank you,

Empower Healthcare Solutions