

Behavioral Health Implementation of Mental Health and SUD Benefits

Mental Health Benefits

January 1, 2014, eligible Medi-Cal beneficiaries may receive expanded mental health benefits through Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans (MCPs), the Fee-For-Service (FFS) delivery systems, and county-administered specialty mental health services (SMHS).

- MCP/FFS Mental Health Services:
 - Individual and group mental health evaluation and treatment (psychotherapy).
 - Psychological testing when clinically indicated to evaluate a mental health condition.
 - Outpatient services for the purposes of monitoring drug therapy.
 - Outpatient laboratory, drugs, supplies and supplements.
 - Psychiatric consultation.

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- Specialty Mental Health Services
 - Outpatient Services
 - Mental Health Services (assessment, plan development, therapy, rehabilitation and collateral)
 - Medication Support Services
 - Day Treatment Intensive
 - Day rehabilitation
 - Crisis Intervention
 - Crisis Stabilization
 - Targeted Case Management
 - Inpatient Services
 - Acute psychiatric inpatient hospital services
 - Psychiatric Inpatient Hospital Professional Services if the beneficiary is in a fee-for-service hospital (rather than a Short-Doyle/Medi-Cal acute psychiatric inpatient hospital).

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Implementation Activities MH

Some of the high level implementation activities for MH:

- Define benefits, services, eligibility criteria, provider responsibilities, referral processes, etc.
- Conduct ongoing Stakeholder meetings
- Submit and negotiate State Plan Amendments with CMS
- Submit and negotiate 1115 Waiver Amendments with CMS
- Develop and vet reimbursement rates
- Develop and conduct plans' readiness assessments
- Develop contract amendments
- Develop regulations
- Develop quality assurance plans

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Substance Use Disorder Benefits

Currently, all eligible Medi-Cal beneficiaries may receive the following SUD services through county-administered (Drug Medi-Cal [DMC]) substance use disorder services.

- **Outpatient Drug Free Treatment**
- **Narcotic Treatment Services**

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Substance Use Disorder Benefits

January 1, 2014, eligible Medi-Cal beneficiaries may receive expanded substance use disorder services:

- **Intensive Outpatient Treatment:** Currently a DMC benefit, but limited to pregnant and postpartum women, children, and youth under the age of 21. This service will be available for the general population.
- **Residential Substance Use Disorder Services:** Currently a DMC benefit, but limited to pregnant and postpartum women. This service will be available for the general population.

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- **Voluntary Inpatient Detoxification:** This service will be available to the general population.
- **Screening and Brief Intervention:** This service will be available to the general adult population for alcohol misuse, and if threshold levels indicate, a brief intervention is covered. This service would occur in primary care settings.

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Implementation Activities SUD

Some of the high level implementation activities for SUD:

- Define benefits, services, eligibility criteria, county and provider responsibilities, referral processes, etc.
 - Include a review of best practice guidelines.
- Conduct ongoing Stakeholder meetings
- Convene Workgroups
- Submit and negotiate State Plan Amendment with CMS
- Develop and vet reimbursement rates
- Determine and carry out IT system changes (Short Doyle)
- Develop technical assistance priority areas and plan to ensure provider knowledge and capabilities.
- Develop Regulations and Contract Amendments

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Contact Information

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