



MEETING MINUTES
Narcotic Treatment Program Advisory Committee
1500 Capitol Avenue, Training Rooms A & B
SEPTEMBER 7, 2016

Members Present:

Jennifer Kent, DHCS	Kelly Pfeifer, M.D.	Jason Kletter, Ph.D.
Marlies Perez, DHCS	Catherine Teare, MPP	Judy Martin, M.D.
Michael Freeman, DHCS	Steve Day	Steve Maulhardt
	Mark Hickman	Stan Sharma, Ph.D.
	Al Senella	Laura Rossi, Ph.D.

Department & Waiver Update – SUDCD, Marlies Perez, Division Chief

Information was presented on Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) and the DMC-ODS pilot program. Under the DMC-ODS waiver, DHCS sets the rates for all required MAT NTP services, which includes methadone, buprenorphine, naloxone, and disulfiram. Counties may choose to cover additional MAT, which includes all FDA-approved medications for SUD in any DMC setting. For optional MAT services outside of an NTP setting, counties propose the rates.

SUD - Program, Policy, and Fiscal Division (PPFD) Update – Don Braeger, Division Chief

DHCS has received proposed DMC-ODS rates from several counties: Santa Cruz, San Mateo, Los Angeles, Santa Clara, San Francisco, and Marin. The NTP rates are currently being established by PPFD and an MHSUDS information notice with guidance regarding those rates, will be published on the website shortly.

State Opioid Treatment Authority Update – SUDCD, Michael Freeman, Section Chief

DHCS previously discussed applying for the Center for Substance Abuse and Treatment Targeted Capacity Expansion grant, which sought to expand MAT services into counties with the highest opioid overdose rates. Petition for the grant was ultimately denied, with most of the awarded grants going to states with demonstrated dramatic increases in admission for treatment of opiates and heroin based on percentage of change from 2007 to 2013.

Pursuant to Senate Bill 870, DHCS is required to adopt a new set of regulations by October 1, 2017 related to the implementation of statewide coverage policies for prescription drugs. The DHCS Pharmacy Benefits Division is encouraging early public review and feedback. A copy of the proposed draft document can be accessed under the “Hot Topics” section of the Pharmacy Benefits Division website:

<http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/provgovpart/pharmacy/Pages/Main.aspx>

DHCS is in the final stages of internal review of the SUDCD NTP regulations package. The package will then be sent to external agencies for review and approval. Once approved, the next step will be a public comment period providing another opportunity for stakeholder feedback.

There was a recent compromise of Urine Analysis (UA) samples at San Diego Reference Lab. Samples from several NTP providers were mistakenly disposed of prior to being tested. All affected programs have been notified and DHCS field analysts have been made aware of the breach.

California Health Care Foundation (CHCF) - Kelly Pfeiffer, MD

CHCF presented on their opioid initiative: reducing morbidity and mortality. Their strategy focuses on evidence-based approaches through changing prescribing practices, expanding access to MAT and the deployment of naloxone. CHCF has already partnered with a number of organizations, including DHCS, CDPH, and various counties, working to enhance opiate treatment. Through primary prevention, CHCF is working with local coalitions to teach new approaches to pain management to clinic providers and doctors-in-training. Secondary prevention efforts stem around provision of training and technical assistance (TA) for community health centers. While tertiary prevention efforts stem around working with health plans and clinics to set up integrated approaches to complex care.

There are currently 17 active opioid safety coalitions in 24 counties, who communicate and support one another with mentorship and coaching. The goal is to ultimately use these coalitions to provide informed, engaged, and capable medical treatment on a local level. There is also significant engagement on the medical side with healthcare providers of various modalities, intersecting and providing holistic treatment. This extends to having historically non-addiction treatment centers, such as hospital emergency departments or jails, taking an increased role in treating patients. Through non-traditional addiction treatment centers, patients can receive greater access to treatment relevant to their respective medical needs

Provider Enrollment Division (PED) Update –Maria Ochoa, Branch Chief

Continued certification efforts of DMC providers are underway and PED has completed phases 1 through 3 of the revalidation efforts. Thus far, all initial reviews are being completed within the mandated 30-day timeline.

Providers seeking FFS enrollment must apply directly through PED and meet established place of business requirements. NTPs seeking an ODF modality must complete a supplemental application. This can be done through completion of form DHCS 6209.

Provider Application and Validation for Enrollment (PAVE) stakeholder meeting will be held on September 16, 2016.

DHCS Update – Jennifer Kent, Director

Information regarding some of the major policy initiatives DHCS is currently engaged in were presented. Some of these initiatives include:

- Managed Care Final Rule
- Mental Health Parity Rule
- Nondiscrimination in Health Programs and Activities Rule
- Whole Person Care Pilot

Hiring has also dramatically increased within the Department causing a strain with space. This has led to an active seeking of alternate facilities to house new employees and growing Divisions within the Department.

Information and a handout regarding coverage of MAT within the Medi-Cal system was discussed, particularly related to Buprenorphine products. DHCS must maintain compliance with the constitutional and statutory requirements set forth and has worked to create a solution to these constraints. The Department will continue to review available solutions to providing maximum coverage of MAT and will update stakeholders as additional guidance becomes available.

Agenda Items for the Next Meeting

The next advisory group meeting will be held on Monday, February 6, 2017.

Suggested topics for the next meeting include:

- CURES
- Updates from PED
- Regulations update

Please submit any additional suggestions for agenda items to the NTP Section at DHCSNTP@dhcs.ca.gov.

The Department would like to work collaboratively with the Narcotic Treatment Program Advisory Committee and are committed to addressing all NTP issues and obtaining input from the experts in the field. The Department's mission is to provide Californians with access to affordable, high-quality health care, including medical, dental, mental health, substance use treatment services, and long-term care. Our vision is to preserve and improve the physical and mental health of all Californians.

Meeting adjourned at 2pm.