

SEC. 248. Section 14707.5 is added to the Welfare and Institutions Code, to read:

14707.5. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature to develop a performance outcome system for Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) mental health services that will improve outcomes at the individual and system levels and will inform fiscal decision making related to the purchase of services.

(b) The State Department of Health Care Services, in collaboration with the California Health and Human Services Agency, and in consultation with the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission, shall create a plan for a performance outcome system for EPSDT mental health services provided to eligible Medi-Cal beneficiaries under the age of 21 pursuant to 42 U.S.C. Section 1396d(a)(4)(B).

(1) Commencing no later than September 1, 2012, the department shall convene a stakeholder advisory committee comprised of representatives of child and youth clients, family members, providers, counties, and the Legislature. This consultation shall inform the creation of a plan for a performance outcome system for EPSDT mental health services.

(2) In developing a plan for a performance outcomes system for EPSDT mental health services, the department shall consider the following objectives, among others:

(A) High quality and accessible EPSDT mental health services for eligible children and youth, consistent with federal law.

(B) Information that improves practice at the individual, program, and system levels.

(C) Minimization of costs by building upon existing resources to the fullest extent possible.

(D) Reliable data that are collected and analyzed in a timely fashion.

(3) At a minimum, the plan for a performance outcome system for EPSDT mental health services shall consider evidence-based models for performance outcome systems, such as the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS), federal requirements, including the review by the External Quality Review Organization (EQRO), and, timelines for implementation at the provider, county, and state levels.

(c) The State Department of Health Care Services shall provide the performance outcomes system plan, including milestones and timelines, for EPSDT mental health services described in subdivision (a) to all fiscal committees and appropriate policy committees of the Legislature no later than October 1, 2013.

(d) The State Department of Health Care Services shall propose how to implement the performance outcomes system plan for EPSDT mental health services described in subdivision (a) no later than January 10, 2014.