



## Stakeholder News

Dear Stakeholders,

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is providing this update of significant developments regarding DHCS programs.

### Top News

#### Medi-Cal Rx

On September 2, DHCS issued a two-week [notification](#) advising stakeholders that on September 16, prior authorization (PA) requirements will be reinstated for 11 drug classes for new start medications for beneficiaries 22 years of age and older. This is the implementation of Phase I, Wave III of the reinstatement plan of claim edits and PAs, as well as the phasing out of the transition policy for Medi-Cal Rx.

### Program Updates

#### CalAIM Population Health Management Program Guide and Readiness Deliverable Template

On September 2, DHCS released the Population Health Management (PHM) [Program Guide](#) and [Readiness Deliverable Template](#) for Medi-Cal managed care plans (MCP). DHCS will launch the [PHM Program](#), a cornerstone of California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM), in January 2023. The PHM Program will establish a cohesive, statewide approach that ensures all Medi-Cal managed care members have access to a comprehensive program that leads to longer, healthier, and happier lives, and health equity. The Program Guide is one of the key DHCS guidance documents that sets forth comprehensive requirements applicable for MCPs for the implementation of PHM. The PHM Readiness Deliverable includes specific questions and attestations to which MCPs must respond and submit to DHCS by October 21 for review and approval. Please email [PHMSection@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:PHMSection@dhcs.ca.gov) with any questions.

#### Smile, California Campaign for Medi-Cal Dental Services

On September 1, *Smile, California* launched a pilot program for faith-based organizations. The *Smile, California* team will coordinate 30-minute one-on-one Zoom meet-and-greet sessions with faith leaders to introduce them to the campaign and identify how the

campaign can collaborate with them on future efforts. This pilot will conclude in mid-December 2022.

During the week of September 12, the Back-Tooth-School (BTS) promotion will launch. In support of this promotion, a new homepage banner will publish on [SmileCalifornia.org](https://SmileCalifornia.org) and [SonrieCalifornia.org](https://SonrieCalifornia.org). In addition, a BTS-themed website banner will publish on the [Oral Health and School Readiness](#) page, which offers materials and resources for the BTS promotion. In addition, the updated English and Spanish Facebook Live Member PowerPoint (PPT) will be uploaded to both websites. The PPT will be translated into Chinese and also uploaded to [SmileCalifornia.org](https://SmileCalifornia.org).

### **Medi-Cal Dental Provider Outreach Activities**

On September 13, the Medi-Cal Dental Provider Support team will resume travel and offer virtual and in-office visits. They will attend the upcoming Santa Clara Local Oral Health Collaboration in San Jose to give a presentation on the Medi-Cal Dental Program. Also, on September 8, the Medi-Cal Dental Provider Support team introduced a QR code that allows dental providers to have paperless access to Medi-Cal Dental Program digital resources.

## **Upcoming Stakeholder Meetings and Webinars**

### **CalAIM Behavioral Health Workgroup meeting**

On September 12, from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., DHCS will convene the CalAIM Behavioral Health Workgroup meeting. The goal of this meeting is to provide key updates related to the Mobile Crisis State Plan Amendment, CalAIM behavioral health initiatives, and the population health management framework. Workgroup members will provide feedback on implementation and operational considerations.

This meeting will also be open to the public, in listen-only mode, with time for public comment at the end. A recording of the webinar will be made available later. [Registration](#) is now available.

### **Medi-Cal Children's Health Advisory Panel (MCHAP) Meeting**

On September 15, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., DHCS will host the next MCHAP hybrid meeting. Attendees can attend in person at DHCS' West Sacramento location, 830 Stillwater Road, or virtually. [Advance registration](#) is required if attending virtually. The MCHAP is a 15-member independent statewide advisory body that advises DHCS on matters relevant to children enrolled in Medi-Cal. Meeting materials are posted on the [DHCS website](#). Please email [MCHAP@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:MCHAP@dhcs.ca.gov) with any questions.

### **CalAIM Enhanced Care Management Meeting for Tribes and Indian Health Program Representatives**

On September 16, from 3:50 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., DHCS will host a meeting for Tribes and Indian Health Program representatives focused on Enhanced Care Management (ECM), a component of CalAIM. ECM is currently available for adult populations of focus and select children/youth populations. ECM will launch on July 1, 2023, for all children/youth populations of focus.

The meeting will include an overview of the children/youth populations of focus and a discussion about how ECM will enhance existing care management programs serving these populations. The invitation and webinar registration information are available on the [Indian Health Program webpage](#). This meeting is intended to provide Tribal and Indian Health Program representatives a forum to give feedback on DHCS initiatives that impact Tribes, Indian Health Programs, and American Indian Medi-Cal beneficiaries.

### **CalAIM Office Hours: ECM Long-Term Care Populations of Focus**

On September 22, from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m., DHCS will virtually host an “Office Hours” discussion on CalAIM ECM Long-Term Care Populations of Focus. This is a follow-up to the September 8 webinar on the ECM Long-Term Care Populations of Focus, and part of a series of “Office Hours” events focused on answering implementation questions from the field.

Throughout the series, panelists representing MCPs, providers, and community-based organizations implementing CalAIM will join DHCS leaders. They will answer questions posed by participants, received during previous webinars, and submitted via email or the registration page prior to the meeting. [Advanced registration](#) is required. Participants are invited to submit questions by September 19 to [CalAIMECMILOS@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:CalAIMECMILOS@dhcs.ca.gov).

Thank you,

Department of Health Care Services  
[www.dhcs.ca.gov](http://www.dhcs.ca.gov)



If you are not a subscriber and would like to receive these updates, please sign up on the DHCS [website](#). You also can view our [State Plan Amendments \(SPA\)](#), and find the most [recent data](#) on Medi-Cal enrollment. For questions or suggestions, contact us at [DHCSCommunications@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:DHCSCommunications@dhcs.ca.gov).

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