

DATE: April 27, 2023

Medi-Cal Eligibility Division Information Letter No.: I 23-31

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS
ALL COUNTY MEDI-CAL PROGRAM SPECIALISTS/LIASONS

SUBJECT: GUIDANCE FOR MONTHLY LIST EFFORTS DURING THE CONTINUOUS
COVERAGE UNWINDING PERIOD
(REF MEDIL 23-02, ACWDL 22-18, MEDIL 20-07)

The purpose of this letter is to provide counties with additional information regarding the manual list efforts during the continuous coverage unwinding period.

Background

During the federal COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE), the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) used various program flexibilities to respond to the crisis and provide continuous access to care for millions of Californians. As a result of Governor Gavin Newsom's March 4, 2020 State of Emergency declaration, and the President's subsequent federal declaration on March 13, 2020, DHCS released policy guidance to counties on modifying case processing during the federal COVID-19 PHE. Additionally, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA), authorized enhanced federal funding for Medi-Cal conditioned upon Maintenance of Eligibility requirements that prohibit disenrollment in most circumstances. Under this "continuous coverage" requirement, states were required to maintain enrollment of nearly all Medicaid (called Medi-Cal in California) enrollees.

DHCS, the Statewide Automated Welfare Systems (SAWS), and counties, utilized various manual list efforts to maintain enrollment and coverage for Medi-Cal beneficiaries and prevent increases in Share of Cost (SOC) during the continuous coverage requirement. These efforts known as the MEDS Restoration Process (Do Not Touch and Share of Costs Lists) restored a beneficiaries' eligibility directly in Medi-Cal Eligibility Data System (MEDS) monthly.

List Efforts During the Unwinding Period

During the Continuous Coverage Unwinding period, beneficiaries are given an opportunity to complete a full redetermination prior to being discontinued from Medi-Cal eligibility. Cases up for renewal shall be appropriately redetermined in accordance with

the guidance issued in [ACWDL 22-18](#). To prevent erroneous discontinuances of coverage during the unwinding period activities, SAWS, DHCS, and counties will utilize a modified manual restoration process in MEDS to prevent invalid discontinuances. These new efforts include the following lists:

- Out of Sync Cases List
- Continuous Coverage Unwinding List
- SOC Review List

Instructions on List Processes

DHCS has uploaded the instructions for processing the various lists to the following Secure File Transfer Protocol (SFTP) folder: DHCS-PDB/Counties/[your county folder].

Access to the SFTP

County access or user changes to the DHCS-PDB SFTP folder for this effort can be requested by emailing MCED.COVID@dhcs.ca.gov or Nellie.Abeleda@dhcs.ca.gov.

All questions or concerns related to the information in this letter or process, can be directed to Nellie Abeleda by emailing Nellie.Abeleda@dhcs.ca.gov.

Original Signed By:

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