



STANISLAUS COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH & RECOVERY SERVICES: QUALITY SERVICES

QS INFORMATION NOTICE

FEBRUARY 2025

PURPOSE: To inform our Stanislaus County staff, contractors, and general community of changes in programs, policies, or procedures at the local, State and Federal levels. QS Information Notices will be sent out monthly and posted on the Stanislaus County website.



GENERAL INFORMATION

Terminology Change

Effective immediately, the term "beneficiary" has now been replaced with "member." This change is reflected in the integrated contract with the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), as well as in the newly updated Integrated Member Handbook. Refer to the email sent on January 6th & 16th, 2025 from BHRS QS for full details.

[Application for up to 72-Hour Assessment, Evaluation, and Crisis Intervention or Placement for Evaluation and Treatment \(5150 Form\) & Notice of Certification for Intensive Treatment Pursuant to Section 5250 \(14 Days Intensive Treatment\) or 5270.15 \(Additional 30 Days Intensive Treatment for Grave Disability\) of the Welfare and Institutions Code \(5250 Form\)](#)

DHCS has updated the 72-Hour Assessment, Evaluation, and Crisis application along with the Notice of Certification for Intensive Treatment. Please ensure staff are using the updated forms. Refer to your program management or Patient's Rights for any questions or guidance.

[BHIN 24-046 Minor Consent to Outpatient Mental Health Treatment or Counseling](#)

Effective July 1, 2024, AB 665 specifies that a minor age 12 or older may consent for outpatient mental health treatment or counseling if the minor, in the opinion of the attending professional person, is mature enough to participate intelligently in the outpatient mental health treatment or counseling.

Where involvement of the parent or guardian is determined to be inappropriate, providers must establish and ensure safeguards are in place to suppress confidential information and prevent appointment notifications, Notice of Adverse Benefit Determination documents, and any other communications that would violate the minor's confidentiality from being inappropriately delivered to the minor's parent or guardian.

[BHIN 24-045 Drug Medi-Cal \(DMC\) and Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System \(DMC-ODS\) American Society of Addiction Medicine \(ASAM\) Assessment Tools](#)

Currently, the ASAM Criteria® Assessment Interview Guide and ASAM CONTINUUM software are being updated to reflect the ASAM Criteria 4th Edition. Counties are encouraged to continue to utilize the existing assessment tool until further guidance from DHCS. Refer to the BHIN for additional information.



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[BHIN 23-068 Updates to Documentation Requirements for all Specialty Mental Health \(SMH\), Drug Medi-Cal \(DMC\), and Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System \(DMC-ODS\) Services](#)

BHIN 23-068 published November 20, 2023 outlines DHCS' documentation standards that applies to SMH and DMC-ODS services. To ensure staff are meeting documentation requirements for Assessments, Problem List, Progress Notes, Care Planning and Telehealth services, refer to this BHIN for guidance.

DHCS AUDIT/REVIEW UPDATES

[Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System \(DMC-ODS\) & Substance Use Block Grant \(SUBG\) Review:](#)

Stanislaus County completed the DMC-ODS and SUBG audit on January 15, 2025. QS submitted additional evidence to DHCS by 1/29/25.

[External Quality Review \(EQR\)](#)

EQR will now be conducted by a new external quality review organization (EQRO), Health Services Advisory Group, Inc. (HSAG). HSAG will be implementing a new process that is activity specific with timelines. Mandatory EQR activities that will be audited includes Performance Improvement Projects (PIPs), Performance Measure Validation (PMV), and Network Adequacy Validation (NAV). Stanislaus County has submitted the PIP Topic Selection by the January 15, 2025 deadline and the Information Systems Capabilities Assessment Tool (ISCAT) by the January 13, 2025 deadline to HSAG.

UTILIZATION MANAGEMENT (UM) UPDATES

[Out Of County SAR Requirement List](#)

The Out Of County SAR Requirement List has been posted on the intranet and extranet. Refer to the email sent on December 19, 2024 from BHRS UM for full details.

[Screening Tool and Transition of Care process](#)

The Screening Tool and Transition of Care process has been updated and is available on the UM tab on the intranet and extranet. Refer to the email sent on December 3, 2024 from BHRS UM for full details.

**If you have any questions related to QS Information Notices, contact Quality Services by:
Email: QSEmail@stanbhhs.org, PHONE: (209) 525-6043, or FAX: (209) 558-4324**