



# SOLANO COUNTY QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

## QI INFORMATION NOTICE 21-04

SEPTEMBER 1, 2021

**PURPOSE:** To inform our Solano County staff, contractors and general community of changes in programs, policies, or procedures at the local, State and Federal levels. QI Information Notices (INs) are sent out monthly and posted on our [website](#).

### GENERAL UPDATES

#### 21-04(A) COVID-19 EXCEPTIONS UPDATES (COUNTY & CONTRACTOR)

As some COVID restrictions are lifted, many of the service and documentation exceptions allowed by DHCS will be changing:

1. Reminder: As of September 30, 2021, signatures are required for Informed Consent for Anti-Psychotic Medications (as per Solano County QI IN 21-03).
2. More information is available at [COVID-19-Providers-and-Partners \(ca.gov\)](#)

#### 21-04(B) VACCINATION, TESTING & MASK REQUIREMENTS FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH FACILITIES (COUNTY & CONTRACTOR):

[DHCS BHIN 21-043](#) was published August 6<sup>th</sup> with immediate deadlines for compliance in August and September. This notice requires vaccination verification, masking, as well as weekly testing for those not vaccinated prior to September 30<sup>th</sup>, and full vaccination on or after September 30, 2021 for all staff in Behavioral Health programs listed specifically in BHIN 21-043. Please review BHIN 21-043 to see if your program is affected.

**Deadlines include:**

1. **August 9<sup>th</sup>** – Begin implementation.
2. **August 23<sup>rd</sup>** – Full compliance with vaccine verification, masking and weekly testing.
3. **September 30<sup>th</sup>** - Affected facilities must ensure that all staff provide vaccination verification with both doses of approved Pfizer or Moderna vaccines or single dose of Johnson and Johnson vaccine. Full vaccination status is considered to be two weeks after final required dose.

#### 21-04(C) CalAIM – CALIFORNIA ADVANCING & INNOVATING MEDI-CAL (COUNTY & CONTRACTOR):

DHCS is actively working to roll out the various CalAIM initiatives that affect Behavioral Health. The chart below outlines current delays in rolling out these initiatives:

Policy	Initial	Updated
Changes to eligibility criteria for SMHS	January 2022	January 2022
DMC-ODS 2022-2026	January 2022	January 2022
Documentation redesign for SUD & SMHS	January 2022	July 2022
Co-occurring treatment	January 2022	July 2022
Standard screening & transition tools	January 2022	January 2023
No Wrong Door	July 2022	July 2022
Payment reform	July 2022	July 2023

Want to learn more about CalAIM? Visit this [link](#)

#### 21-04(D) UPDATES TO MHP AUDIT PROCESS FOR 21/22 DUE TO CalAIM (COUNTY & CONTRACTOR)

Due to upcoming documentation changes associated with CalAIM, Solano County will be adjusting the audit process for the current fiscal year 21/22. The plan is for audits to begin in January 2022, to have a random selection of programs audited, and for the review period to be decreased. We will provide randomly selected programs the option for the audit to occur onsite or to submit required documentation electronically. Full details will be communicated in the coming months.

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### **21-04(E) DHCS TRIENNIAL CHART AUDIT & SYSTEM REVIEW PREPARATION (COUNTY & CONTRACTOR):**

DHCS conducts triennial oversight reviews of each county Mental Health Plan (MHP) to determine compliance with federal and state regulations as well as identify opportunities for improvement. The Triennial Audit for Solano County is scheduled for December 2021. QI has been working diligently on preparation for the Triennial Audit and as the time draws close, please prepare your charts:

1. Make sure charts/client EHR records are up to date including all required forms, including required signatures.
2. DHCS will send the chart list sometime in late November at which time QI will request these charts from County and Contractor programs.

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### **21-04(F) COUNTY ACCESS TO SERVICES WEBPAGE (COUNTY & CONTRACTOR):**

The new Solano County [Access to Services](#) webpage is a great resource for connecting clients to services and information. Please take time to review the new features which include:

1. True Care Map – interactive as well as a PDF version to print
2. Forms – Beneficiary Guides, Provider Directory
3. County Specific Forms – consents etc.
4. Contractors can also access this page but please make sure that you are providing your program specific forms and information to beneficiaries.

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### **21-04(G) MEDI-CAL RX TRANSITION (COUNTY & CONTRACTOR):**

As mandated by federal government code of regulations as part of the Affordable Care Act in 2011, [42 CFR 455.410 and 455.450](#), the state of California created the Provider Application and Validation for Enrollment ([PAVE](#)) portal. This electronic portal is to meet credentialing and billing requirements. Email [QualityImprovement@SolanoCounty.com](mailto:QualityImprovement@SolanoCounty.com) if you have questions.

1. All [licensed](#) professional providers are required to enroll as an (ORP) Ordering, Rendering, Prescribing Provider as of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. Unless they have registered as a Fee For Service Provider which can be found at [CHHS](#).
2. Prescribing professional (doctors, nurse practitioners, physician's assistant) are also required to enroll in [Medi-Cal RX](#) by January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022, in addition to enrolling in PAVE. This is part of [Executive Order N-01-19](#) issued to achieve cost-savings for drug purchases.

## **AVATAR UPDATES**

### **No Avatar updates this month**

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We look forward to continuing to partner or implementing this and future State and Federally mandated initiatives that help to inform and protect the rights of those we serve.

Approved by Rob George, LCSW  
MH Services Manager, Sr., Quality Improvement, Access/Managed Care, Avatar Planning

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### **CONTACT QI:**

[QUALITYIMPROVEMENT@SOLANOCOUNTY.COM](mailto:QUALITYIMPROVEMENT@SOLANOCOUNTY.COM) PHONE: (707) 784-8323 FAX: (707) 427-2774