



# STANISLAUS COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH & RECOVERY SERVICES: QUALITY SERVICES

## QS INFORMATION NOTICE

**JANUARY 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

#### [BHIN 24-023 Standards for Specific Behavioral Health Provider Types and Service:](#)

Behavioral Health Information Notice (BHIN) 24-023 published June 17, 2024, provides updates to Title 9 and Title 22 CCR regulations for Mental Health Plan (MHP) and Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System (DMC-ODS) counties to implement [State Plan Amendment \(SPA\) 23-0026](#). BHIN 24-023 now allows Licensed Vocational Nurses (LVNs), Licensed Psychiatric Technicians (LPTs), Licensed Occupational Therapists (LOTs), Medical Assistants (MAs), and Clinical Trainees (CTs) to provide specified Medi-Cal behavioral health services within the DMC-ODS Plan. For Specialty Mental Health Services (SMHS), this BHIN adds MAs and CTs to the list of providers that can provide specified Medi-Cal behavioral health services within the MHP.

#### [BHIN 24-034 Integrated Behavioral Health \(BH\) Member Handbook Requirements](#)

Effective January 1, 2025, Counties will be required to disseminate the Integrated Member Handbook to all members. Stanislaus County BHRS will no longer have separate handbooks for SMHS and DMC-ODS. The handbook has been integrated.

All County and Contracted providers must offer a copy of the new integrated member handbook to ALL members and document in a service/progress note that this took place during the member's first contact or service after December 31, 2024. Handbooks are available in English, Spanish and Large Print. Please keep in mind, aids and services for people with disabilities, like documents in braille, audio and large print, are also available to members at no additional cost.

#### [BHIN 20-071 SMHS Provider Screening and Enrollment Requirements in Medi-Cal:](#)

BHIN 20-071 published December 15, 2020, requires County and contracted programs to enroll **all licensed providers** in the Provider Application and Validation for Enrollment (PAVE). County and contract programs, please ensure **all appropriate licensed providers** in your programs are enrolled in PAVE.

County Staff: If you need any further assistance with PAVE enrollment process, please refer to BHIN 20-071 and/or contact BHRS Human Resources at [BHR@stanbhers.org](mailto:BHR@stanbhers.org).

Contractor Staff: If you need further assistance with PAVE enrollment process, please refer to BHIN 20-071 and/or contact your program supervisor.



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### SMARTCARE UPDATES

#### ICD-10 Code Updates:

Effective October 1, 2024 several ICD-10 codes changed in SmartCare. CalMHSA has created a document outlining the changes. This information, including the document, was sent out on September 17, 2024 from the BHRIS SmartCare email address. Please reference that email for the CalMHSA document.

#### Guide to SmartCare Procedure Service Codes for Specialty Mental Health Services:

Effective September 2024, The SMHS Procedure Code guide was updated and now includes the Medication Administration (H0033) code.

Please refer to the guide for any additional guidance on allowable place of service (POS) and disciplines. Please note that both the DMC-ODS & SMHS Procedure Code guides are available on the intranet and extranet.

A reminder to **ALL** staff (county & contractor) to **REFRAIN** from using any procedure code that may be available in SmartCare but is **NOT** on the SMHS or DMC-ODS Procedure Code guides.

### DHCS AUDIT/REVIEW UPDATES

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

The evidence submission phase was completed and submission was made to DHCS December 2024. The DMC-ODS and SUBG audit review will take place on January 15, 2025.

### UTILIZATION MANAGEMENT (UM) UPDATES

#### UM Audit and CAP Process:

Effective November 1, 2024, the UM Audit Review and CAP Process has been updated. One of the big changes is the new audit calendar that lists all scheduled audits for next year. Refer to the email sent on November 15, 2024 from BHRIS UM for full details. Additional resources are available on the UM tab on the Intranet and Extranet.

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