

## Behavioral Health Services (BHS) – Information Notice

<b>To:</b>	<b>BHS Contracted Service Providers</b>
<b>From:</b>	<b>Behavioral Health Services</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>March 22, 2023</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>Drug Medi-Cal Process for Out-of-County Clients</b>

This Information Notice provides clarification regarding the process for Out-of-County Medi-Cal clients who intend to reside in San Diego County and supersedes Information Sharing BHS-2018-009 and BHS-2019-008.

### **Outpatient, Residential, and Opioid Treatment Services for Out-of-County Medi-Cal Clients with Intent to Reside in San Diego County**

For Out-of-County Medi-Cal clients who indicate their intent to reside in San Diego, the County will cover the cost of medically necessary and clinically appropriate outpatient, residential, and opioid treatment services from the initial date of service, for a maximum of 60 days from the first of the month following the initial month of service across BHS system of care. For example, if a client’s initial date of service is April 10, Out-of-County coverage would begin April 10 and conclude 60 days after May 1, which would be July 1. During this period, programs are expected to assist Out-of-County Medi-Cal clients with updating their Medi-Cal enrollment.

### **Opioid Treatment Program (OTP) Services for Out-of-County Medi-Cal Clients with No Intent to Reside in San Diego County**

Out-of-County Medi-Cal clients with no intent to reside in San Diego will be able to access OTP services under the following circumstances:

- Medi-Cal client needs Methadone and individual and group counseling. These will be entered as DMC-billable in SanWITS.
- Medi-Cal client needs courtesy dosing. County will cover the cost up to 30 days across the BHS system of care and starts over at the beginning of the fiscal year. Program will identify units as County Billable – Out of County in SanWITS.

Programs should follow the DMC-ODS Out-of-County Flowchart (attached) and the Billing Unit tip sheets for Outpatient, Residential Bed Days, Residential Case Management, and Opioid Treatment Programs. These are also posted under Communications in the [Optum website](#) with instructions on the process for Out-of-County Medi-Cal clients. It is the program’s responsibility to monitor the status of the transfer to San Diego County. The Out-of-County Claims Summary and Details Reports are available in SanWITS for programs to track the denied DMC-billable and County-billable units of service.

The amended process for Out-of-County Medi-Cal clients is retroactive to July 1, 2022. The County Billing Manual will be updated to include the flowchart and tip sheets.

Please email [ADSBillingUnit.HHSA@scounty.ca.gov](mailto:ADSBillingUnit.HHSA@scounty.ca.gov) for any questions about this Information Sharing. For more information about the Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System, visit the County of San Diego [DMC-ODS website](#).

#### **For More Information:**

- Contact your Contracting Officer’s Representative (COR)