COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL DIRECTOR

November 21, 2011

TO: PHs, Legal Entities, MHPs, NPs, SMHPs

FROM: Wayland Chan, Pharm.D.
Pharmacy Director

SUBJECT: **PRESCRIPTION AND MEDI-CAL CARD REQUIREMENTS**

In order to comply with California Board of Pharmacy regulations, please advise clients that they must bring their prescriptions to the pharmacy in order to receive their medications. DMH contracted pharmacies have been advised to only dispense medications if:

- The client produces the hard copy PATS prescription, or
- The pharmacy has a facsimile of the prescription, or
- The pharmacy has a proper verbal authorization.

Please note that clients who arrive without a paper/hard copy prescription may not receive medication unless the pharmacy contacts the program to request a facsimile or verbal authorization.

In addition, clients who are Medi-Cal beneficiaries are to be reminded that they should always bring their Medi-Cal ID card to the pharmacy.

Evidence should be maintained by the program to support ongoing compliance with existing requirements for accurate documentation in the medication log or, alternatively, presence of the white copy of handwritten prescription in the client record. Evidence may consist of documented reviews by a supervisor of a representative chart sample. Compliance consists of documentation of the following information associated with each prescription: date; medication name, strength and quantity; direction for use; and name and signature of the issuing practitioner.

RS:WC:vm

c: Roderick Shaner
District Chiefs
Gerald Ko