



PROVIDER BULLETIN

May 22, 2019

Sixth Edition, Issue 2

Network Providers

A Publication of the Local Mental Health Plan of the County of Los Angeles Department of Mental Health

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1. FY 19-20 Medi-Cal Professional Services Contract

The Network Provider's current Medi-Cal Professional Services Group or Individual Provider Contract with the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (DMH) is scheduled to end June 30, 2019.

DMH intends to execute a new contract with you, if you are able to meet the Mental Health Plan Network Adequacy requirements, meet the Credentialing criteria, and accept the Contractual requirements. As you have previously been advised at the Fee-For-Service (FFS) Providers IBHIS/Avatar Teleconferences and by an email sent to you on April 25, 2019 from DMH FFS 2 email address, there are changes to the contract language that is significantly updated with additional contractual requirements. Now providers are required to enter data into the Network Adequacy Certification Tool (NACT) and update information on a regular basis so that information in the Provider Directory is both accurate and timely.

Please review the Checklist – FFS Agreement Renewal FY 19-20 emailed to you on April 25. If you are not able to comply with the requirements and choose not to renew your contract after June 30, 2019, please complete the Notice of Voluntary Discontinuation (**Attachment I**) to notify us of your decision **now** so that a plan for transition of your clients can be established. Providers are responsible for notifying current clients in writing that they are no longer a Medi-Cal provider in the Local Mental Health Plan Provider Network with the effective date of contract termination. A sample notification letter (**Attachment II**) is provided.

2. Revised Reimbursement Rates for Network Providers on July 1, 2019

DMH has revised the rates by which qualified, fee-for-service mental health providers are reimbursed for Medi-Cal specialty mental health services (SMHS) provided to the County's Medi-Cal beneficiaries on or after July 1, 2019. The revised rates double the rates in FY 2018/19.

Detail procedure codes and rates will be provided in the Fee-For-Service Network Provider Manual, Seventh Edition, July 2019.

3. Specialty Mental Health Services That Require Prior Authorization

Most SMHS not rendered in inpatient hospital or inpatient psychiatric facility are restricted to a threshold of 8 sessions per client within a 4-month trimester period. When a client's condition demonstrates the need for more than 8 sessions within a 4-month trimester period, the provider may go to the ProviderConnect Application and submit an over threshold authorization request.

Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT) and psychological testing services require a prior authorization from DMH. Providers may go to the ProviderConnect Application and submit an outpatient treatment authorization request. The application is available at: <https://lapconn.netsmartcloud.com/la/>. The ProviderConnect End User Manual is available at: <https://dmh.lacounty.gov/for-providers/administrative-tools/provider-manuals-directories/>.

Please send all requested documentation to the Central Authorization Unit at:

Los Angeles Department of Mental Health
Intensive Care Division
Central Authorization Unit
550 Vermont Ave., Room 703
Los Angeles, CA 90020

Fax: (213) 351-2495

Do not send protected health information via fax.

If you have any questions regarding this Provider Bulletin, please contact the FFS Hotline at (213) 738-3311, or send an email to: FFS2@dmh.lacounty.gov, or submit a HEAT Ticket by accessing the DMH SSLVP secure website at: <https://dmh.sslvpn.lacounty.gov/dmh/contractor>

Provider Bulletins are posted on the DMH website at: http://lacdmh.lacounty.gov/hipaa/ffs_UIS_Special.htm

**Local Mental Health Plan
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Medi-Cal Professional Service & Authorization Division
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