State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
Department of Health Care Services

JENNIFER KENT
DIRECTOR

EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

DATE: February 17, 2016

MHSUDS INFORMATION NOTICE NO.: 16-005 SUPERSEDED BY: BHIN 21-075

TO: COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAM DIRECTORS
COUNTY DRUG AND ALCOHOL ADMINISTRATORS
COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION
COALITION OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG ASSOCIATIONS

SUBJECT: DRUG MEDI-CAL ORGANIZED DELIVERY SYSTEM WAIVER COUNTY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN GUIDE

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) received approval on August 13, 2015, from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to implement the Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System (DMC-ODS) Waiver. This letter transmits the instructions and template for submitting county implementation plans.

DHCS has recently revised the implementation plan to include additional items of interest for CMS. To expedite the plan review process, provide all elements specified in the attached implementation plan guide. Items not provided may result in a delay of implementation plan review. Additionally, CMS will review county implementation plans simultaneously with DHCS and will work with the department for any follow up questions. While awaiting review of plans, counties are encouraged to move forward with the required American Society of Addiction Medicine Criteria training which must be completed and obtained prior to DMC-ODS waiver billable services are provided. If a counties' implementation plan is approved, DHCS will provide the county with a start date of when waiver services may begin.

Please submit implementation plans via email and/or hard copy to Marlies Perez at DHCS. If you have any questions regarding the submission of the county implementation plan, contact Marlies Perez at Marlies.Perez@dhcs.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Karen Baylor, Ph.D., LMFT, Deputy Director
Mental Health & Substance Use Disorder Services

Attachment

Attachment
Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System
(DMC-ODS) County Implementation Plan

The county implementation plan will be used by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) and the Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) to assess the county's readiness to implement the Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System (DMC-ODS) Waiver. The implementation plan will also demonstrate how the county will have the capacity, access and network adequacy required for DMC-ODS implementation. The questions contained in this plan draw upon the Special Terms and Conditions and the appropriate CFR 438 requirements. DHCS and CMS will review and render an approval or denial of the county's participation in the Waiver based upon the initial and follow-up information provided by the counties.

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PART I
PLAN QUESTIONS

This part is a series of questions that summarize the county's DMC-ODS plan.

1. Identify the county agencies and other entities involved in developing the county plan. (Check all that apply) Input from stakeholders in the development of the county implementation plan is required; however, all stakeholders listed are not required to participate.

   ☐ County Behavioral Health Agency
   ☐ County Substance Use Disorder Agency
   ☐ Providers of drug/alcohol treatment services in the community
   ☐ Representatives of drug/alcohol treatment associations in the community
   ☐ Physical Health Care Providers
   ☐ Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans
   ☐ Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs)
   ☐ Clients/Client Advocate Groups
   ☐ County Executive Office
   ☐ County Public Health
   ☐ County Social Services
   ☐ Foster Care Agencies
   ☐ Law Enforcement
   ☐ Court
   ☐ Probation Department
   ☐ Education
   ☐ Recovery support service providers (including recovery residences)
   ☐ Health Information technology stakeholders
   ☐ Other (specify) _____

2. How was community input collected?

   ☐ Community meetings
   ☐ County advisory groups
   ☐ Focus groups
   ☐ Other method(s) (explain briefly)

3. Specify how often entities and impacted community parties will meet during the implementation of this plan to continue ongoing coordination of services and activities.

☐ Monthly
☐ Bi-monthly
☐ Quarterly
☐ Other: _____

Review Note: One box must be checked.

4. Prior to any meetings to discuss development of this implementation plan, did representatives from Substance Use Disorders (SUD), Mental Health (MH) and Physical Health all meet together regularly on other topics, or has preparation for the Waiver been the catalyst for these new meetings?

☐ SUD, MH, and physical health representatives in our county have been holding regular meetings to discuss other topics prior to waiver discussions.

☐ There were previously some meetings, but they have increased in frequency or intensity as a result of the Waiver.

☐ There were no regular meetings previously. Waiver planning has been the catalyst for new planning meetings.

☐ There were no regular meetings previously, but they will occur during implementation.

☐ There were no regular meetings previously, and none are anticipated.

5. What services will be available to DMC-ODS clients upon year one implementation under this county plan?

REQUIRED

☐ Withdrawal Management (minimum one level)
☐ Residential Services (minimum one level)
☐ Intensive Outpatient
☐ Outpatient
☐ Opioid (Narcotic) Treatment Programs
☐ Recovery Services
☐ Case Management
☐ Physician Consultation

How will these required services be provided?

☐ All County operated
☐ Some County and some contracted
☐ All contracted.

OPTIONAL

☐ Additional Medication Assisted Treatment
☐ Partial Hospitalization
☐ Recovery Residences
☐ Other (specify) _____

6. Has the county established a toll free 24/7 number with prevalent languages for prospective clients to call to access DMC-ODS services?

☐ Yes (required)
☐ No. Plan to establish by:_____.

Review Note: If the county is establishing a number, please note the date it will be established and operational.

7. The county will participate in providing data and information to the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) Integrated Substance Abuse Programs for the DMC-ODS evaluation.

☐ Yes (required)
☐ No

8. The county will comply with all quarterly reporting requirements as contained in the STCs.

☐ Yes (required)
☐ No

9. Each county's Quality Improvement Committee will review the following data at a minimum on a quarterly basis since external quality review (EQR) site reviews will begin after county implementation. These data elements will be incorporated into the EQRO protocol:
    - Number of days to first DMC-ODS service/follow-up appointments at appropriate level of care after referral and assessment
    - Existence of a 24/7 telephone access line with prevalent non-English language(s)
    - Access to DMC-ODS services with translation services in the prevalent non-English language(s)
    - Number, percentage of denied and time period of authorization requests approved or denied

☐ Yes (required)
☐ No

PART II
PLAN DESCRIPTION (Narrative)

In this part of the plan, the county must describe DMC-ODS implementation policies, procedures, and activities.

General Review Notes:

- Number responses to each item to correspond with the outline.
- Keep an electronic copy of your implementation plan description. After DHCS and CMS review the plan description, the county may need to make revisions. When making changes to the implementation plan, use track changes mode so reviewers can see what has been added or deleted.
- Counties must submit a revised implementation plan to DHCS when the county requests to add a new level of service.

Narrative Description

1. Collaborative Process. Describe the collaborative process used to plan DMC-ODS services. Describe how county entities, community parties, and others participated in the development of this plan and how ongoing involvement and effective communication will occur.

Review Note: Stakeholder engagement is required in development of the implementation plan.

2. Client Flow. Describe how clients move through the different levels identified in the continuum of care (referral, assessment, authorization, placement, transitions to another level of care). Describe what entity or entities will conduct ASAM criteria interviews, the professional qualifications of individuals who will conduct ASAM criteria interviews and assessments, how admissions to the recommended level of care will take place, how often clients will be re-assessed, and how they will be transitioned to another level of care accordingly. Include the role of how the case manager will help with the transition through levels of care and who is providing the case management services. Also describe if there will be timelines established for the movement between one level of care to another. Please describe how you plan to ensure successful care transitions for high-utilizers or individuals at risk of unsuccessful transitions.

Review Note: A flow chart may be included.

3. Beneficiary Notification and Access Line. For the beneficiary toll free access number, what data will be collected (i.e.: measure the number of calls, waiting times, and call abandonment)? How will individuals be able to locate the access number? The access line must be toll-free, functional 24/7, accessible in prevalent non-English languages, and ADA-compliant (TTY).

Review Note: Please note that all written information must be available in the prevalent non-English languages identified by the state in a particular service area. The plan must notify beneficiaries of free oral interpretation services and how to access those services.

4. Treatment Services. Describe the required types of DMC-ODS services (withdrawal management, residential, intensive outpatient, outpatient, opioid/narcotic treatment programs, recovery services, case management, physician consultation) and optional (additional medication assisted treatment, recovery residences) to be provided. What barriers, if any, does the county have with the required service levels? Describe how the county plans to coordinate with surrounding opt-out counties in order to limit disruption of services for beneficiaries who reside in an opt-out county.

Review Note: Include in each description the corresponding American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) level, including opioid treatment programs. Names and descriptions of individual providers are not required in this section; however, a list of all contracted providers will be required within 30 days of the waiver implementation date. This list will be used for billing purposes for the Short Doyle 2 system.

5. Coordination with Mental Health. How will the county coordinate mental health services for beneficiaries with co-occurring disorders? Are there minimum initial coordination requirements or goals that you plan to specify for your providers? How will these be monitored? Please briefly describe the county structure for delivering SUD and mental health services. When these structures are separate, how is care coordinated?

6. Coordination with Physical Health. Describe how the counties will coordinate physical health services within the waiver. Are there minimum initial coordination requirements or goals that you plan to specify for your providers? How will these be monitored?

7. Coordination Assistance. The following coordination elements are listed in the STCs. Based on discussions with your health plan and providers, do you anticipate substantial challenges and/or need for technical assistance with any of the following? If so, please indicate which and briefly explain the nature of the challenges you are facing.

- Comprehensive substance use, physical, and mental health screening;
- Beneficiary engagement and participation in an integrated care program as needed;

- Shared development of care plans by the beneficiary, caregivers and all providers;
- Collaborative treatment planning with managed care;
- Care coordination and effective communication among providers;
- Navigation support for patients and caregivers; and
- Facilitation and tracking of referrals between systems.

8. Availability of Services. Pursuant to 42 CFR 438.206, the pilot County must ensure availability and accessibility of adequate number and types of providers of medically necessary services. At minimum, the County must maintain and monitor a network of providers that is supported by written agreements for subcontractors and that is sufficient to provide adequate access to all services covered under this contract. In establishing and monitoring the network, describe how the County will consider the following:

- The anticipated number of Medi-Cal clients.
- The expected utilization of services by service type.
- The numbers and types of providers required to furnish the contracted Medi-Cal services.
- A demonstration of how the current network of providers compares to the expected utilization by service type.
- Hours of operation of providers.
- Language capability for the county threshold languages.
- Specified access standards and timeliness requirements, including number of days to first face-to-face visit after initial contact and first DMC-ODS treatment service, timeliness of services for urgent conditions and access afterhours care, and frequency of follow-up appointments in accordance with individualized treatment plans.
- The geographic location of providers and Medi-Cal beneficiaries, considering distance, travel time, transportation, and access for beneficiaries with disabilities
- How will the county address service gaps, including access to MAT services?
- As an appendix document, please include a list of network providers indicating, if they provide MAT, their current patient load, their total DMC-ODS patient capacity, and the populations they treat (i.e., adolescent, adult, perinatal).

9. Access to Services. In accordance with 42 CFR 438.206, describe how the County will assure the following:

- Meet and require providers to meet standards for timely access to care and services, taking into account the urgency of need for services.
- Require subcontracted providers to have hours of operation during which services are provided to Medi-Cal beneficiaries that are no less than the hours of operation during which the provider offers services to non-Medi-Cal patients.
- Make services available to beneficiaries 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, when medically necessary.
- Establish mechanisms to ensure that network providers comply with the timely access requirements.

- Monitor network providers regularly to determine compliance with timely access requirements.
- Take corrective action if there is a failure to comply with timely access requirements.

10. Training Provided. What training will be offered to providers chosen to participate in the waiver? How often will training be provided? Are there training topics that the county wants to provide but needs assistance?

Review Note: Include the frequency of training and whether it is required or optional.

11. Technical Assistance. What technical assistance will the county need from DHCS?

12. Quality Assurance. Describe the County's Quality Management and Quality Improvement programs. This includes a description of the Quality Improvement (QI) Committee (or integration of DMC-ODS responsibilities into the existing MHP QI Committee). The monitoring of accessibility of services outlined in the Quality Improvement Plan will at a minimum include:

- Timeliness of first initial contact to face-to-face appointment
- Frequency of follow-up appointments in accordance with individualized treatment plans
- Timeliness of services of the first dose of NTP services
- Access to after-hours care
- Responsiveness of the beneficiary access line
- Strategies to reduce avoidable hospitalizations
- Coordination of physical and mental health services with waiver services at the provider level
- Assessment of the beneficiaries' experiences, including complaints, grievances and appeals
- Telephone access line and services in the prevalent non-English languages.

Review Note: Plans must also include how beneficiary complaints data shall be collected, categorized and assessed for monitoring Grievances and Appeals. At a minimum, plans shall specify:

- How to submit a grievance, appeal, and state fair hearing
- The timeframe for resolution of appeals (including expedited appeal)
- The content of an appeal resolution
- Record Keeping
- Continuation of Benefits
- Requirements of state fair hearings.

13. Evidence Based Practices. How will the counties ensure that providers are implementing at least two of the identified evidence based practices? What action will the county take if the provider is found to be in non-compliance?

14. Regional Model. If the county is implementing a regional model, describe the components of the model. Include service modalities, participating counties, and identify any barriers and solutions for beneficiaries. How will the county ensure access to services in a regional model (refer to question 7)?

15. Memorandum of Understanding. Submit a signed copy of each Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the county and the managed care plans. The MOU must outline the mechanism for sharing information and coordination of service delivery as described in Section 152 "Care Coordination" of the STCs. If upon submission of an implementation plan, the managed care plan(s) has not signed the MOU(s), the county may explain to the State the efforts undertaken to have the MOU(s) signed and the expected timeline for receipt of the signed MOU(s).

Review Note: The following elements in the MOU should be implemented at the point of care to ensure clinical integration between DMC-ODS and managed care providers:

- Comprehensive substance use, physical, and mental health screening, including ASAM Level 0.5 SBIRT services;
- Beneficiary engagement and participation in an integrated care program as needed;
- Shared development of care plans by the beneficiary, caregivers and all providers;
- Collaborative treatment planning with managed care;
- Delineation of case management responsibilities;
- A process for resolving disputes between the county and the Medi-Cal managed care plan that includes a means for beneficiaries to receive medically necessary services while the dispute is being resolved;
- Availability of clinical consultation, including consultation on medications;
- Care coordination and effective communication among providers including procedures for exchanges of medical information;
- Navigation support for patients and caregivers; and
- Facilitation and tracking of referrals.

16. Telehealth Services. If a county chooses to utilize telehealth services, how will telehealth services be structured for providers and how will the county ensure confidentiality? (Please note: group counseling services cannot be conducted through telehealth).

17. Contracting. Describe the county's selective provider contracting process. What length of time is the contract term? Describe the local appeal process for providers that do not receive a contract. If current DMC providers do not receive a DMC-ODS contract, how will the county ensure beneficiaries will continue receiving treatment services?

18. Additional Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT). If the county chooses to implement additional MAT beyond the requirement for NTP services, describe the MAT and delivery system.

19. Residential Authorization. Describe the county's authorization process for residential services. Prior authorization requests for residential services must be addressed within 24 hours.

20. One Year Provisional Period. For counties unable to meet all the mandatory requirements upon implementation, describe the strategy for coming into full compliance with the required provisions in the DMC-ODS. Include in the description the phase-in plan by service or DMC- ODS requirement that the county cannot begin upon implementation of their Pilot. Also include a timeline with deliverables.

Review Note: This question only applies to counties participating in the one-year provisional program and only needs to be completed by these counties.

County Authorization

The County Behavioral Health Director (for Los Angeles and Napa AOD Program Director) must review and approve the Implementation Plan. The signature below verifies this approval.

_____	_____	_____
County Behavioral Health Director*	County	Date

(*for Los Angeles and Napa AOD Program Director)