

**DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG PROGRAMS**

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**ADP BULLETIN**

Title: Unannounced Drug Medi-Cal Post Service Post Payment Utilization Reviews  
 to begin January 15, 2005

Deputy Director Approval	Function:	Issue Date:	Issue No.
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Michael S. Cunningham	<input type="checkbox"/> Fiscal	Supersedes Bulletin/ADP	
<i>PROGRAM SERVICES DIVISION</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Administration	Letter No.	

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this bulletin is to notify County Alcohol and Drug Program Administrators and Direct Providers, who participate in the Drug Medi-Cal (DMC) Program, that beginning January 15, 2005, all Post Service Post Payment (PSPP) Utilization Reviews will be unannounced.

**DISCUSSION**

Beginning on January 15, 2005, DMC Monitoring Unit analysts will begin making unannounced PSPP utilization review visits. The practice in the past has been for field staff to notify providers in advance to schedule a PSPP review for several weeks later. However, shrinking resources make it impossible for this practice to continue. With an ever-increasing number of providers to monitor, it is important for the Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs (ADP) to maximize time and staff resources. Travel is becoming more difficult due to traffic and other delays, preventing DMC monitors to efficiently maintain scheduled appointments. Unannounced visits will provide greater flexibility for monitors to conduct reviews at alternate sites if a review cannot take place at the original site. The practice of unannounced reviews is consistent with other ADP units, such as the Narcotic Treatment Program Licensing and Certification Unit and the Driving Under the Influence Monitoring Unit.

We concur that unannounced site visits continue to ensure the integrity and quality of service for DMC clients as Title 22 requires by facilitating the most efficient and effective PSPP review process possible.

## REFERENCES

California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 22, Section 51341(f).

## BACKGROUND

The DMC Monitoring Unit of the County Monitoring Branch (CMB) in the Program Services Division of ADP has been reviewing its operations in an effort to achieve greater efficiencies and to ensure consistency with the CCR, Title 22, 51341(f), which governs DMC programs.

As a result of this process, there will be a number of adjustments made to program review protocols that will be instituted over time. County Alcohol and Drug Program Administrators and providers will be notified of changes before they are implemented.

Technical assistance and training efforts will be increased to assist providers in meeting the requirements of the Title 22 regulations. This bulletin begins a series of announcements about the changes that will be instituted in DMC Monitoring over the next year or longer.

## QUESTIONS/MAINTENANCE

Questions should be referred to either Ms. Joy Jarfors, Manager, CMB at (916) 322-7933 or Ms. Gloria Woodlock, Supervisor, DMC Monitoring Unit at (916) 322-1935.

## DISTRIBUTION

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