



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



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

DATE: November 24, 2015

MHSUDS INFORMATION NOTICE NO.: 15-051

TO: COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAM DIRECTORS
COUNTY DRUG & ALCOHOL ADMINISTRATORS
COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIRECTOR'S ASSOCIATION
CALIFORNIA COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH AGENCIES
COALITION OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG ASSOCIATIONS

SUBJECT: NEW SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER COST REPORTING SYSTEM

The Department of Health Care Services is developing a new substance use disorder (SUD) cost report system to be used by counties beginning with the Fiscal Year (FY) 2014-2015 cost report. The new system will be web-based and will replace the former Paradox database application that was used to record and report SUD costs and units of service.

Counties will access the new web-based system online through the Information Technology Web Services portal. The new system will alleviate many of the technological issues faced by county, provider and state users of the former Paradox application. Users will be able to access the system from multiple computers simultaneously, and upload and download data directly through the system. Other advantages include enhanced control over who can edit, add, or delete data, behind-the-scenes interface updates; and increased data security.

DHCS expects to have the web-based system ready for county use by April 2016. Counties can assist DHCS in meeting this timeline by actively engaging in user acceptance testing when contacted in February and March 2016.

The due date of the FY 2014-2015 SUD cost report (which would normally have been November 1, 2015) will be postponed until after the release of the new system. However, DHCS will be distributing the Drug Medi-Cal (DMC) forms to counties prior to April 2016 so providers can begin entering DMC data on the Excel forms. At least for FY 2014-2015, providers will continue to complete the DMC forms in Excel and the county will enter that data into the web-based system. It is expected that the data currently collected on the Excel forms will be entered directly into the web-based system beginning in FY 2015-2016 and the Excel forms will be eliminated.

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Questions concerning this notice should be directed to the Fiscal Management and Accountability Branch, Cost Report Unit at: AODCostReport@dhcs.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

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