



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



MICHELLE BAASS
DIRECTOR

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February 22, 2022

Mr. James G. Scott, Director
Division of Program Operations
Medicaid and CHIP Operations Group
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
601 East 12th Street, Suite 0300
Kansas City, MO 64106-2898

WITHDRAWAL OF STATE PLAN AMENDMENT 21-0003: DISASTER RELIEF FOR
COVID-19 CRISIS STABILIZATION UNITS


Dear Mr. Scott:

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is formally withdrawing Disaster Relief State Plan Amendment (SPA) 21-0003.

On January 22, 2021, DHCS submitted SPA 21-0003 to temporarily implement policies related to crisis stabilization services to address a shortage of treatment beds as a result of the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE). More specifically, SPA 21-0003 proposes to allow beneficiaries to receive crisis stabilization services for up to four days (96 hours), and allow reimbursement with Medicaid federal financial participation for crisis stabilization services claims for up to 20 hours for each 24-hour period up to four consecutive days, so long as the provider demonstrates a good faith effort to transition the beneficiary to a different level of care. At this point in the PHE, DHCS no longer wishes to pursue this temporary disaster relief flexibility.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Shaina Zurlin, Chief, Medi-Cal Behavioral Health Division, at (916) 584-3810 or by email at Shaina.Zurlin@dhcs.ca.gov.

Sincerely,


Jacey Cooper
State Medicaid Director
Chief Deputy Director
Health Care Programs

cc: See Next Page

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