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SAPC BULLETIN NO. 14-04-DMC

December 18, 2014

TO: Los Angeles County Drug Medi-Cal  
Contracted Treatment Providers

FROM: Wesley L. Ford, M.A., M.P.H., Director  
Substance Abuse Prevention and Control

SUBJECT: **CHANGES TO THE DRUG MEDI-CAL PROGRAM**

Recently the California legislature and the Department of Health Care Services made changes to the Drug Medi-Cal (DMC) program through the passage of Senate Bill 1045 and the adoption of Emergency Regulations 2014-0616-04E regarding group sizes and physical examinations. Your DMC program is responsible for abiding by these updated regulations:

**Group Size**

Effective June 25, 2014, for Intensive Outpatient Treatment and January 1, 2015, for Outpatient Drug Free, billable groups will consist of a minimum of two (2) and a maximum of twelve (12) individuals. At least one participant in the group must be a DMC eligible client.

**Physical Examinations**

Medical exam waivers are no longer acceptable. In addition to the regulations changes, the following SAPC requirements now apply:

The Medical Director must act using one of the following options for conducting physical examinations:

1. If a client had a physical examination within the last twelve (12) months, the Medical Director may review the examination documentation within thirty (30) days from date of admission and determine whether the client is cleared for treatment.

2. If the Medical Director cannot obtain documentation of a client's physical examination conducted within the last twelve (12) months, the Medical Director must conduct or order a physical examination to be conducted within thirty (30) days from the date of admission and use this to determine if the client is cleared for treatment.
3. If the Medical Director cannot review documentation from an examination conducted in the previous twelve (12) months and does not conduct or order an examination within thirty (30) days from the date of admission, the provider must include in the treatment plan the goal of completing a physical examination within 60 days of the date of admission.

You may obtain further information regarding Senate Bill 1045 by viewing the following website:  
[http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201320140SB1045](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201320140SB1045)

Information regarding Emergency Regulations 2014-0616-04E may be viewed at:  
[http://www.oal.ca.gov/res/docs/pdf/emergencies/recent%20action,%20moved%20emergencies/2014-0616-04E\\_App.pdf](http://www.oal.ca.gov/res/docs/pdf/emergencies/recent%20action,%20moved%20emergencies/2014-0616-04E_App.pdf)

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Anne Robinson, Director, Contracts Services Division, at (626) 299-4532 or via email at [arobinson@ph.lacounty.gov](mailto:arobinson@ph.lacounty.gov), or you may contact your Contract Program Auditor directly.

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