Behavioral Health Department
Alameda County Health

Memo

Date: March 7, 2025

To: Alameda County Behavioral Health Department (ACBHD) Specialty Mental Health Services
            (SMHS) and Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System (DMC-ODS) Providers

From: Torfeh Rejali, Division Director, Quality Assurance (QA) *Torfeh Rejali*   *Brion Phipps*
            Brion Phipps, Interim Associate Administrator, Quality Assurance

Subject: Considerations for Selecting Diagnoses/Codes for Claiming

The purpose of this memo is to announce the publication of a document titled *Considerations for Selecting a Diagnosis for Claiming* and removal of outdated diagnosis resources from the QA Manual page of the ACBHD Provider website.

Background

Effective January 1, 2022, per BHINs 21-073 and 21-075, except for psychiatric inpatient hospital, psychiatric health facility services, and SUD residential/inpatient, DHCS no longer limits SMHS or DMC-ODS to lists of included diagnoses; instead, DHCS provides categorical guidance.

New Resource

Following the DHCS example, ACBHD will no longer publish specific lists of diagnoses/codes. As a result, the following reference guides have been removed from the QA Manual:

- ACBH SMHS OP ICD-10 CM Diagnoses for Claiming
- ACBH SUD OP ICD-10-CM Diagnoses for Claiming
- BHIN 20-043 Enclosure 1-SMHS Inpatient Included Diagnosis
- BHIN 20-074E Enclosure 1- SUD Residential and Inpatient Included Diagnosis

A new document has been created titled Selecting Diagnoses/Codes for Claiming and published in Section 13 of the QA Manual. This ACBHD resource provides information about selecting diagnoses and codes for claiming in the DMC-ODS and SMHS delivery systems. It includes a table summarizing the guidance and requirements from DHCS related to diagnoses codes that may be used for claiming across the systems and levels of care and helpful links to DHCS source material.

Action Required

Please communicate this change to your team members as appropriate.

Support

Providers are invited to join monthly QA Brown Bag meetings where this and other relevant information are discussed. Meeting details and link can be found on the QA Training page.

For questions about this memo please contact ACBHD ICC/IHBS/TBS/TFC program lead ICCadministrator@acgov.org or QATA@acgov.org.