

POLICY TITLE	Policy No: 403-9-1
Implementing Intensive Care Coordination (ICC) and Intensive Home-Based Services (IHBS)	Date of Original Approval: 10/31/2022
	Date(s) of Revision(s):

PURPOSE

This policy establishes protocol to ensure effective implementation of Intensive Care Coordination (ICC) and Intensive Home-Based Services (IHBS) within Alameda County Behavioral Health Care Services (ACBH) and ensures that these programs are aligned with specialty mental health services and adhere to federal, state, and county regulations.

AUTHORITY

- Mental Health & Substance Use Disorder Services and Behavioral Health Information Notices (MHSUDS) Information Notice 16-004 (February 5, 2016)

SCOPE

All Alameda County Behavioral Health Care Services (ACBH) county-operated partners referring children or young adults for ICC services and ICC providing services. ACBH is responsible for authorizing IHBS services for contracted providers therein.

POLICY

Providers shall adhere to provisions and criteria to ensure effective implementation of ICC and ensure IHBS services follow protocols of child and youth specialty mental health services. Services must be delivered in a manner consistent with the standards outlined in the Pathways to Mental Health Services Core Practice Model Guide (CPM) and the Medi-Cal Manual for Intensive Care Coordination, Intensive Home Based Services, and Therapeutic Foster Care Services for Medi-Cal Beneficiaries. ICC and IHBS are voluntary services and can be declined by youth at any time. Prior authorization for IHBS services is required by ACBH.

PROCEDURE

I. Service Provision

A. Referral for ICC:

Requests for ICC services for Medi-Cal EPSDT beneficiaries, shall be submitted to ACBH designee. ACBH designee will verify the beneficiary’s Medi-Cal status and that the beneficiary meets medical necessity for specialty mental health services. If both criteria are met, ACBH designee will initiate a referral to a contracted ICC provider.

NOTE: ICC services for youth who meet Katie A. subclass criteria shall be requested by the child/youth's child welfare worker or offered to youth identified as meeting criteria as Katie A. subclass through Alameda County Behavioral Health and Alameda County Department of Children and Family Services data exchange process.

II. ICC Services

ICC is a service that is responsible for facilitating assessment, care planning, and coordination of services, including urgent services, to EPSDT beneficiaries. ICC requires a designated mental health coordinator whose role is to:

- A. Work within the Child & Family Team (CFT) to ensure that plans from any of the system partners (e.g. mental health, child welfare, education services, probation, etc.) are integrated to comprehensively address goals and objectives.
- B. Ensure participation by the child or youth, family or caregiver so that the assessment and plan address the child or youth's needs and strengths in the context of the values and philosophy of the Pathways to Mental Health Core Practice Model.
- C. Ensure activities of all parties are coordinated to support successful and enduring change.
- D. ICC services components include: Assessment; Service Planning and Implementation; Monitoring and Adapting; and Assessment.

III. Authorization of IHBS:

The need for IHBS shall be identified by the ICC provider in collaboration with the child's/youth's CFT. The ICC provider shall update the child's/youth's treatment plan to identify the need for IHBS. The treatment plan and referral for IHBS shall be submitted to ACBH designee. Upon review of the treatment plan and verification of Medi-Cal status, ACBH designee will authorize IHBS, as appropriate.

ACBH designee will monitor IHBS services and authorize continuation of services every six months, as long as there is no change in Medi-Cal status and medical necessity for IHBS remains.

When a parent/caregiver or child/youth (above the age of 12) explicitly requests that a specific ICC Coordinator also provide IHBS, the ICC Coordinator has discretion to provide the IHBS service.

A. IHBS Services

IHBS services must be delivered within the context of the CFT under ICC. IHBS are individualized, strength-based interventions designed to ameliorate mental health conditions that interfere with a child's functioning. Interventions are aimed at helping the child/youth build skills necessary for successful functioning in the home and community and improving the family's ability to help the child/youth successfully function in the home and community.

IHBS goals and objectives should seek to maximize the child's ability to live and participate in the community and to function independently (including through building social, communication, behavioral, and basic living skills). Providers of IHBS shall

engage the child in community activities where the child has an opportunity to work towards identified goals and objectives in a as part of the service.

The difference between IHBS and more traditional SMHS, is that IHBS is expected to be of significant intensity to address the mental health needs of the child/youth, consistent with the child's/youth's client plan, and will be predominantly delivered outside an office setting, and in the home, school, or community.

IV. ICC/ IHBS Exclusions

Effective July 1, 2017, ICC and IHBS may be provided to Medi-Cal beneficiaries, under the age of 21, who are placed in a group home or Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program, if medically necessary.

There is no limitation on the number of days that ICC may be provided or reimbursed.

ICC services cannot be provided while a child or youth is receiving treatment at an inpatient psychiatric facility, except on the day of admission and the day of discharge, and allowed 30 days prior to planned discharge for placement purposes.

IHBS services cannot be provided while a child or youth is receiving treatment at an inpatient psychiatric facility, except on the day of admission and the day of discharge.

NON-COMPLIANCE

Any failure to comply with this policy may result in formal actions including and up to formal sanctions as outlined in ACBH policy 1302-1-1 "Contract Compliance and Sanctions for BHCS – Contract Providers.

CONTACT

ACBH Office	Current Date	Email/Phone
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Provider Relations Claims Processing	10/24/2022	(510) 383-1582
Utilization Management	10/24/2022	(510) 567- 8141
Quality Assurance	10/24/2022	QAOFFICE@acgov.org
Quality Improvement	10/24/2022	QITEAM@acgov.org

DISTRIBUTION

This policy will be distributed to the following:

- ACBH Staff
- ACBH Contract Providers
- Public

ISSUANCE AND REVISION HISTORY

Original Authors: Lisa Carlisle, M.ED, MA. ACBH Child and Young Adult System of Care Director

Original Date of Approval: 10/31/2022 by Karyn L. Tribble, PsyD, LCSW, Behavioral Health Director

Revision Author	Reason for Revision	Date of Approval by (Name, Title)

DEFINITIONS

Term	Definition
Intensive Care Coordination (ICC)	A targeted case management service that facilitates assessment of, care planning for, and coordination of services to beneficiaries under age 21 who are eligible for full scope Medi-Cal services and who meet medical necessity criteria.
Intensive Home-Based Services (IHBS)	Individualized, strength-based interventions designed to correct or ameliorate mental health conditions that interfere with a child or youth’s functioning and are aimed at helping the child or youth build skills necessary for successful functioning in the home and community, and improving the child or youth’s family’s ability to help the child or youth successfully function in the home and community.
Katie A.	A Birth—21 years old system of care, in partnership with county mental health plans and the Department of Family & Children Services (DCFS), which screens all children in the foster care system and links them to behavioral health services.

APPENDICES

NONE