

Education Committee

June 9, 2020



California
Telehealth
Policy
Coalition

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Welcome and Introductions	5 min.
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Webinars and Fact Sheets Discussion	20 min.
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Welcome to New Members



Coalition's key guiding principles (as outlined in our charter):

Promote access and coverage. Policies, legislation and activities should promote access to care through telehealth and coverage of telehealth services.

Enhance care coordination. Policies, legislation and activities should reinforce the patient-centered medical home model and reduce care fragmentation both within and among systems.

Promote provider and patient engagement. Policies, legislation and activities should promote the participation of providers in efforts that improve performance and patient health outcomes, and the involvement of patients in their health care.

Reinforce clinical quality. Policies, legislation and activities should reinforce desirable, measurable outcomes, specifically those used by regulators and produced by standard-setting organizations.

Ensure data privacy and security. Policies, legislation and activities should ensure data privacy and security, particularly as those standards are prescribed by law and industry standards.

Education Committee Work Plan 2021

Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4	
✓	Host webinar on a key topic	✓	Host webinar on a key topic	<input type="checkbox"/>	Host webinar on a key topic	<input type="checkbox"/>	Host Policy Briefing
<input type="checkbox"/>	Develop and publish 2 fact sheets on Key Topics	✓	Develop and publish 2 fact sheets on Key Topics	<input type="checkbox"/>	Develop and publish 2 fact sheets on Key Topics	<input type="checkbox"/>	Host Annual meeting
✓	Oversee strategic communications work with regular reports from chairs	✓	Oversee strategic communications work with regular reports from chairs	<input type="checkbox"/>	Oversee strategic communications work with regular reports from chairs	<input type="checkbox"/>	Oversee strategic communications work with regular reports from chairs
✓	Review and finalize charter for 2021	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chair outreach to administration/ legislative leaders to introduce them to the coalition	<input type="checkbox"/>	Discuss proposed Physician Fee Schedule Changes and craft response		
✓	Coordinate on policy and initiative tracking (e.g., CalAIM, Master Plan on Aging)	✓	Develop and launch recruitment strategy				

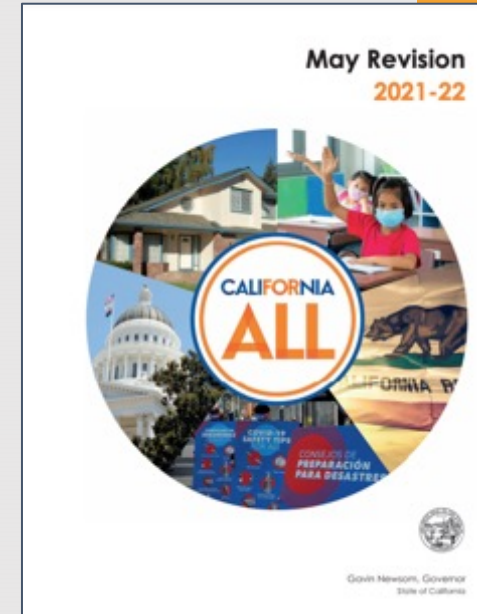
Support Letters to State Legislature

- **Support for SB 371 (Caballero):** Would create the position of Deputy Secretary of Health Information Technology (HIT) within the California Health and Human Services Agency (CHHSA) to help coordinate and understand the disparate activities.
- **Support for SB 365 (Caballero):** will make electronic consultation (eConsult) services reimbursable under the Medi-Cal program for enrolled providers, including federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) and rural health clinics (RHCs).

*Let us know by **COB, Friday, June 11, 2021** if your organization is **unable** to sign onto the letter of support.*

Governor and DHCS released May revisions to the budget, with several changes to proposed Medi-Cal policies

- Telephonic/audio-only services would be subject to a **separate fee-schedule set at 65% of the in-person/synchronous reimbursement rate** for the service provided.
- To the extent federal approval is obtained, allow telephonic/audio-only encounters between an FQHC or RHC patient and specified providers **to be reimbursed as a visit and at a rate developed by DHCS in lieu of the PPS rate.**
- Requires all providers furnishing services via synchronous and/or telephonic/audio-only modalities to **also offer such services via in-person, face-to-face contact.**
- DHCS will consult with subject matter experts to establish **utilization management protocols** for all telehealth services prior to implementation of post-pandemic telehealth services.
- Children and Youth Behavioral Health: Proposes a statewide and comprehensive transformation of the behavioral health system for all Californians age 25 and younger. This proposal will expand evidenced-based programs, train new behavioral health workers, **and create a statewide portal that can connect young people with telehealth visits**, and other interactive tools. **Proposes \$165 million for e-consult services and provider training to allow primary care pediatric and family practice providers to receive asynchronous support and consultation to manage behavioral health conditions for their patients in their practices.**



Find more information on the DHCS proposed budget here: https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/Documents/Budget_Highlights/DHCS-FY-2021-22-MR-Highlights.pdf

Budget Update: Legislature's Response to May Revision

Joint Proposal from Assembly and Senate Budget Committees:

- Adopts proposed trailer bill to make permanent various flexibilities for Medi-Cal providers to utilize telehealth, as provided during the Public Health Emergency, consistent with AB 32 (Aguiar-Curry), and rejects administration-proposed trailer bill on telehealth.
- Approves the May Revision proposal to provide \$35 million one-time to support local projects to expand broadband access for isolated and underserved communities through a collaborative partnership of local education agencies, regional and local libraries, and telehealth providers. It is also requested that these funds be available for encumbrance or expenditure until June 30, 2025
- Approves \$165 million for E-consult services and provider training within the plan for Children and Youth Behavioral Health Investments.

See Assembly Budget Committee website for more information: <https://bit.ly/3g9H1I7>



State Health and Human Services Leaders Issue Joint Statement on Release of California's \$5.2 Billion Medicaid Home and Community Based Services Spending Plan

Addressing Digital Divide for Adults with HCBS - Funding: \$4.7M enhanced federal funding (\$9.5M TF) One-time

- Older adults and adults with disabilities eligible for Medi-Cal tele-health services and participating in HCBS will be provided tablets or other appropriate devices for telehealth, along with broadband and tech support (including expanded language access for tech support).
- This initiative leverages a new CDA digital divide initiative with Older American Act providers to increase the number of older adults and adults with disabilities receiving HCBS who are connected to tele-health and to other digital services and supports that prevent isolation and support well-being, while furthering the goals of the Master Plan for Aging.

Nursing Home Recovery & Innovation - Funding: \$50M enhanced federal funding (\$50M TF) One-time

- California's priorities include revisiting and expanding the pilot for Small Home facilities, for both quality of care and quality of jobs; facilitating in-room broadband access for residents; and disaster readiness improvements for facilities and systems, to respond to wildfires, earthquakes, and other emergencies where residents are especially vulnerable, among other innovations.

California Legislative Developments (1/3)

Telehealth-Related Bills

Bill No.	Coalition Support?	Recent Developments	Brief Description
AB 32 (Aguiar Curry et al.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Passed Asm. In Senate. Read first time. To Com. On RLS. For assignment. (06/03)	Makes permanent certain Covid-19 telehealth flexibilities
AB 1264 (Aguiar-Curry)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Two-year bill	Creates CHHS Agency Project ECHO grant program for children's hospitals
SB 365 (Caballero)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Referred to Com. on Asm. HEALTH. (06/03)	Requires Medi-Cal e-consult reimbursement
SB 371 (Caballero)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	In Assembly. referred to Com. on HEALTH. (06/03)	Creates a Deputy Secretary for Health Information Technology to coordinate health information technology efforts regarding hie, broadband, and telehealth
AB 410 (Fong)		Inactive file	Nurse Licensure Compact
AB 457 (Santiago)		In Senate. Read first time. To Com. on RLS. for assignment. (5/28)	Creates Protection of Patient Choice in Telehealth Provider Act
AB 523 (Nazarian)		In Senate. Read first time. To Com. on RLS. for assignment. (5/28)	Requires DHCS to make all COVID PACE program changes permanent, including telehealth flexibilities
AB 552 (Quirk-Silva)		Two-year bill	Integrated School-Based Behavioral Health Partnership Program
AB 935 (Maienschein)		Two-year bill	Requires health plans and insurers to provide access to a telephone mental health consultation program for children and pregnant/post-partum women

California Legislative Developments (2/3)

Telehealth-Related Bills

Bill No.	Coalition Support?	Recent Developments	Brief Description
AB 1117 (Wicks)		Two-year bill	Establishes Healthy Start: Toxic Stress and Trauma Resiliency for Children Program
AB 1131 (Wood)		Two-year bill	Requires participation in statewide health information exchange network
AB 1252 (Chau)		Ordered to inactive file at the request of Assembly Member Chau. (6/02)	Defines privacy protections for personal health record information
SB 508 (Stern)		Inactive	Authorizes a local education agency (LEA) to provide mental health services and includes telehealth as an approved modality
SB 801 (Roth)		In Assembly. Read first time. Held at Desk. (6/2)	For purposes of telehealth, defines health care provider to additionally include an associate clinical social worker and an associate professional clinical counselor

California Legislative Developments (3/3)

Broadband Bills

Bill No.	Coalition Support?	Recent Developments	Brief Description
AB 14 (Aguiar-Curry et al.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	In Senate. Read first time. To Com. on RLS. for assignment. (06/03)	Revises law regarding California Advanced Services Fund (CASF)
SB 4 (Gonzalez)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	In Assembly. Read first time. Held at Desk. (06/02)	Revises law regarding California Advanced Services Fund (CASF)
AB 34 (Muratsuchi)	<i>Recommended by Broadband Committee, for discussion at June Leg. Committee</i>	Held in Approps. Committee 5/20	Authorizes the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$10,000,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to support the 2022 Broadband for All Program
AB 537 (Quirk)		In Senate. Read first time. To Com. on RLS. for assignment. (6/2)	Requires that the time period for city/county approval of collocation or siting applications for wireless telecommunications facilities be deemed approved if the city/county fails to approve within the standard set by the FCC
SB 378 (Gonzalez)		In Assembly. Referred to Coms. on L. GOV. and C. & C. (5/28)	Broadband: methods of fiber installation
SB 556 (Dodd)		In Assembly. Referred to Coms. on L. GOV. and C. & C. (5/20)	Seeks to ensure local governments provide access and quickly permit approval of small wireless facility siting applications

Fact Sheet for Review: What Is Telehealth Parity?

Contents:

- There are already certain parameters that must be met in order for the medical services provided to be reimbursed.
- Laws and standards of care do not change based upon mode of service delivery.
- Example Scenarios

*Please review and return comments and edits
no later than **Friday, June 11, 2021.***

Thanks for attending our second webinar!

Alternate Modalities: Going Beyond Live Video & RPM

Welcome

- Mei Wa Kwong, Executive Director, Center for Connected Health Policy

Today's Moderator

- Dr. Anthony Magit, Rady Children's Hospital, University of California, San Diego

The Patient Experience

- Adrianna

Panelist Session Speakers

- Lisa Matsubara, General Counsel & Vice President of Policy, Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California
- Rajat Simhan, MBA, Chief Integration Officer, San Joaquin General Hospital
- Sara Schnaitter, LCSW, Clinician, School-Based Behavioral Health, University of California, San Francisco, Benioff Children's Hospital, Oakland

Q&A

USE OF TEXT MESSAGING IN THE PROVISION OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Provisions & Considerations

HIPAA

Confidentiality

Lack of follow-up or response in safety situations

Alternative contact/caregiver agreements

Benefits & Use/Service Delivery Strategies

Safety

Coaching

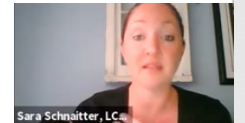
Tracking

Access

Confidentiality

Rapport Building

Accomplishments



View the recorded webinar: <https://bit.ly/3fPwHOT/>

Access webinar slides: <https://bit.ly/3vVj5qP>

Webinar Planning Discussion- Webinar #3

Webinar Proposal: California Telehealth Policy Update

Date:

Purpose: Educate/update stakeholders on status of state legislative and administrative proposals for telehealth coverage post-pandemic.

Timing: Late July, after holiday and telehealth pieces of main budget bill finalized

Panelists:

- Possibly DHCS
- CA Association of Public Hospitals
- CA Pan-Ethnic Health Network
- Other?

Accompanying Fact Sheet:

- CCHP Fact Sheet on DHCS Proposal
- Fact Sheet on status of updated policies

Webinar Planning Discussion- Webinar #4

Webinar Proposal: The Digital Divide and Telehealth

Date:

Purpose: Educate/update stakeholders on the current state of the digital divide and how it affects telehealth usage. Provide background on the fundamentals of broadband and the policy regulating it. Include updates from budget/legislature

Timing: Late summer/early fall

Panelist:

Accompanying Fact Sheet:

State broadband updates

Recruitment Tracker- *For Discussion Today*

Organization Type	Organization	Contact	Outreach Lead
Disability community	Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund		
Occupational therapy			
English to Speakers of Other Languages			
Skilled Nursing Facilities	CALTCM	Mike Wasserman	
School Psychologists	Cal. Assoc. of School Psychologists		
Consumer organizations	Insure the Uninsured Project	Marissa Kraynak	Mei/Amy spoke with last week
	Southern Indian Health Council	Laura I Caswell	Joe connected // Amy met with
Education organizations	School Nurses Association	Sheri Coburn	Dr. Magit connected // Mei emailed

Emergency Broadband Benefit Program Details Released

Eligible households can receive:

- \$50 discount per month towards broadband service for eligible households (\$75 per month if on tribal lands)
- One-time discount of \$100 to purchase a laptop, desktop or tablet if consumer contributes more than \$10 and less than \$50

Eligibility:

- Income at or below 135% of Federal Poverty Line or on certain assistant programs (SNAP, Medicaid or Lifeline)
- Received a Federal Pell Grant
- Free or reduced school lunch

How to Apply:

- Contact your preferred participating broadband provider
- Go to getemergencyBroadband.org
- Use a Mail-in application

[Consumer Outreach Toolkit](#)



Closing Announcements

Save the Dates

Upcoming Meetings

Legislation Committee

June 10 from 1-2pm

Broadband Committee

June 15 from 1-2pm

Monthly Meeting

June 18 from 1-2pm

Please reach to staff if you have any questions

Mei Kwong: meik@cchpca.org

Amy Durbin: amyd@ccpca.org

Robby Franceschini:

robby.franceschini@bluepathhealth.com



Appendix

Priority 1: Make temporary coverage expansions permanent and expand access to new modalities

Example work:

- Support payment parity for Medi-Cal Managed Care
- Support remote patient monitoring coverage for Medi-Cal and commercial plans
- Support continued FQHC/RHC coverage for telehealth
- Work with members to highlight patient stories on webinars, other materials aimed at policymakers and consumers

Priority 2: Build the evidence base for telehealth in California

Example work:

- Showcase research on monthly calls
- Develop a telehealth data clearinghouse on our website and leverage members' data dashboards
- Release annual report for DHCS and the state legislature - align publication date with Fall Briefing
- Host Capitol Briefing in Fall 2021 (third annual)
- Host and co-host educational webinars. Key Topics: Equity, Telehealth & Triple Aim, RPM, broadband policy/Lifeline program, interoperability

Priority 3: Bridge the digital divide and addressing health equity

Example work:

- Promote heightened standards for broadband access and consumer subsidies for smartphones and internet access
- Demonstrate and build evidence base on the efficacy and quality of telephonic visits
- Track and highlight distribution of internet access/telehealth across communities (i.e., geographies, communities of color, the disabled community, older adults, teens and young adults)
- Identify resources for additional telehealth adoption including grants and technical assistance

Priority 4: Advance state leadership on telehealth and health IT

Example work:

- Advocate for state coordination on telehealth and related IT issues (i.e., telehealth integrations, public health reporting, health information exchange)
- Track regulatory requirements and required updates
- Conduct outreach to state agencies on telehealth policy in 2021
- Emphasize the need for modernization of telehealth and data sharing through state policy initiatives (i.e., CalAIM, Managed Care procurement)