



A Public Entity

Inland Empire Health Plan



To: Medi-Cal IPAs and Medi-Cal PCPs
From: IEHP – Provider Relations
Date: September 27, 2017
Subject: **Tobacco Cessation Services for Medi-Cal Members**

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) issued All Plan Letter (APL) 16-014, Tobacco Cessation Services for Medi-Cal Members requiring IEHP to develop and implement a process to identify tobacco users and track utilization data of tobacco cessation services.

How do these regulatory changes impact IPAs and Providers?

There are new training materials and information available for tobacco cessation services. Providers are expected to review and implement the services outlined below:

1. Initial and annual assessment of tobacco use for each adolescent and adult Member through the Individual Health Education Behavioral Assessment (IHEBA) with documentation in the medical record;
2. Prescribing Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT) medications without prior authorization or criteria (please see the formulary for full list of medications);
3. Provision of counseling services, along with documentation via CPT code;
4. Usage of validated behavior change models (such as the “5 A’s”) to counsel Members;
5. Referral to appropriate quit-line services like the California Smokers’ Helpline;
6. Ensure pregnant Members are counseled and referred to necessary services;
7. Engage in early tobacco use prevention methods for children and adolescents; and
8. Identification of Members using tobacco through ICD 10 codes.

Payment Details

For payment purposes, tobacco cessation services are covered under “Routine Office Visits” in the contracts and under the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT) benefit included in the Division of Financial Responsibility (DOFR).

Training Materials

Additional resources needed for tobacco cessation services can be found on the Provider Portal on the IEHP website. These resources include ICD 10 and CPT Codes for tobacco cessation, Clinical Practice Guidelines, and Helpline referral options.

Location: www.iehp.org > For Providers > Additional Resources > Tobacco Cessation Services or <https://ww3.iehp.org/en/providers/additional-resources/tobacco-cessation-services/>

For any questions, please contact the IEHP Provider Relations Team at (909) 890-2054.