

Network Provider Update

To: Medi-Cal network participants

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Subject: All Plan Letter 22-023: Street Medicine Provider: Definitions and Participation in Managed Care

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) recently issued [All Plan Letter \(APL\) 22-023](#), "Street Medicine Provider: Definitions and Participation in Managed Care." We are sharing a summary of this APL with you to ensure you are aware of the information, and you can apply the information to your practice or facility operations, where appropriate.

APL 22-023 explains how managed care plans (MCPs) such as Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plan may work with street medicine providers to address clinical and non-clinical needs of Medi-Cal members experiencing unsheltered homelessness.

Key information

- Street medicine is defined as health and social services delivered in an individual's lived environment, in places that are not intended for human habitation.
- A contracted street medicine provider may serve as a member's elected primary care provider (PCP), as long as they meet the MCP's eligibility requirements.
- A member who chooses a street medicine provider as their PCP may be assigned to the provider directly, or to the brick-and-mortar location with which the provider is affiliated.
- Contracted street medicine providers will need to be credentialed and undergo facility site reviews and medical record reviews.
- Street medicine providers are exempt from time-and-distance access requirements because the members they serve do not have permanent residential addresses.
- DHCS encourages MCPs to contract directly with street medicine providers. Street medicine providers can be contracted as both PCPs and enhanced care management (ECM) providers. They may also decline serving as PCPs and instead serve only as referring or treating providers.
- Individuals receiving treatment must be enrolled in Medi-Cal or covered by the Hospital Presumptive Eligibility (HPE) program.
- The APL also includes details about billing and reporting requirements for street medicine.

This summary is only meant as a brief description of the APL. Please see the APL itself for additional background and the complete requirements. The full text of APL 22-023 may be found at this URL: <https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/Documents/MMCDAPLsandPolicyLetters/APL2022/APL22-023.pdf> (Links to the DHCS.ca.gov website will take you off of the Blue Shield Promise website.)

Please direct questions about serving Blue Shield Promise members to our Provider Services Department at (800) 468-9935 from 6 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.