



# COUNTY OF YOLO

## HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

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### POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

#### SECTION 6, CHAPTER 11, POLICY 001

#### STANDARDS FOR PRESCRIBING AND MONITORING SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER (SUD) MEDICATIONS

- A. PURPOSE:** To inform Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency (HHS) staff and subcontracted providers of the standards for prescribing and monitoring the safety and effectiveness of medications used to treat Substance Use Disorder (SUD) conditions.
- B. FORMS REQUIRED/ATTACHMENTS:**
- a. Attachment A – CommuniCare Health Centers: Medication Assisted Treatment Protocol for Use of Buprenorphine (Suboxone)
  - b. Attachment B – CommuniCare Health Centers: Medically Assisted Treatment Protocol for Opiates and/or Alcohol
  - c. Attachment C – C.O.R.E. Medication Manual
  - d. Attachment D – C.O.R.E. Standardized Procedures for NPs and Pas
  - e. Attachment E – C.O.R.E. EKG and Methadone Serum Level Acknowledgment Form
  - f. Attachment F – C.O.R.E. Peer Review Policy and Procedure
  - g. Attachment G – C.O.R.E. Peer Review Protocol
  - h. Attachment H – C.O.R.E. Peer Review-Chart Review Tool
  - i. Attachment I – C.O.R.E. Quarterly Peer Review for AHPs and MDs Tool
  - j. Attachment J – C.O.R.E. LIP and Physician Credentialing Procedure
- C. DEFINITIONS:** N/A
- D. POLICY:** HHS shall monitor all subcontracted SUD providers for appropriateness of policies and procedures and implementation in accordance with State and Federal requirements. Subcontracted SUD providers shall comply with the Terms and Conditions set forth in the Agreement for Substance Use Disorders (“Agreement”) contract with the County and Intergovernmental Agreement (IA).

Substance use treatment services shall be available to Yolo County Medi-Cal beneficiaries through utilization of federal and state funds available for reimbursable covered services rendered by certified Drug Medi-Cal (DMC) providers, including SUD medication management services.

## **E. PROCEDURE:**

### **A. Establishing Guidelines and Protocols**

- a. Each subcontracted SUD provider will develop and maintain SUD medication prescribing guidelines and protocols appropriate to their organization, based on the most current evidence-based information available for treating substance use disorders.
- b. It is understood that such prescribing guidelines and protocols are not absolute, and the clinical condition of a client ultimately dictates the course of action to be followed by prescribers. However, the specific reason(s) for deviation from any guidelines or protocols should be clearly documented in a client's medical record.
- c. Prescribing guidelines and protocols reflect current interpretations of best practices and change as new information and medications become available.

### **B. Physical Examination and Medical Monitoring**

- a. Each subcontracted SUD provider will develop and maintain policies and procedures for physically and psychiatrically monitoring clients undergoing SUD treatment with medications.
- b. Monitoring of individuals taking any SUD medication should be determined by the unique clinical situation and condition of the individual, including type of medication(s), health risk factors, duration of treatment, concurrent general medical conditions, concurrent mental health conditions, and associated medications and laboratory monitoring. All such activity and results shall be documented in the client's medical record.
- c. Refusal to undergo a medical examination and/or appropriate medical monitoring is a special situation that must be addressed by the prescribing practitioner. Risks and benefits of prescribing medication shall be discussed with the individual being treated. The physiologic dangers inherent in this situation must be considered and the nature and outcomes of such deliberations must be clearly documented in the medical record.

### **C. Informed Consent for Treatment with SUD Medications**

- a. Prescribing practitioners of subcontracted SUD providers must be licensed medical professionals with an active, unrestricted, non-expired license, and in good standing.
- b. Prescribing practitioners shall follow the policies and procedures of their SUD organization, including reviewing medications with the client and obtaining signed informed consent for treatment with SUD medications.
- c. All informed consent forms shall be maintained in a client's medical record as per Agreement.

### **D. Monitoring and Quality Improvement**

- a. HHSA shall review the safety and effectiveness of SUD medication services provided to Yolo County Medi-Cal beneficiaries receiving treatment at least annually either by chart audit or by review of reports regularly submitted to HHSA from the SUD provider.

- b. All guidelines and protocols related to the use of SUD medications shall be incorporated into existing medication monitoring standards and procedures.
- c. Existing methods of monitoring and quality improvement for each SUD provider will be utilized where appropriate. These methods may include: supervision, medication monitoring, peer review, and site visits.

**F. REFERENCES:**

Boilerplate-SUD Contract (Agreement for Substance Use Disorders)

Title 21, CFR Part 1300 et seq., Title 42, CFR, Part 8

Drug Medi-Cal Certification Standards for Substance Abuse Clinics

Title 22, CCR, Sections 51341.1, 51490.1 and 51516.1

Standards for Drug Treatment Programs (October 21, 1981)

Title 9, CCR, Division 4, Chapter 4, Subchapter 1, Sections 10000, et seq.

Title 22, CCR, Division 3, Chapter 3, Sections 51000 et seq.

Title 42, CFR, 438

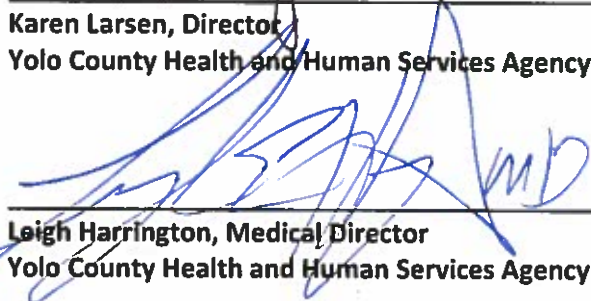
**Approved by:**



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5/11/18

Date



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5/8/18

Date