



A Public Entity

Inland Empire Health Plan



To: All PCPs and IPAs
From: IEHP – Provider Relations
Date: June 10, 2022
Subject: **Alcohol and Drug Screening, Assessment, Brief Interventions, and Referral to Treatment (SABIRT)**

Pursuant to the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) All Plan Letter (APL) 21-014, “Alcohol and Drug SABIRT,” IEHP has updated its requirements for alcohol and substance use screening in the primary care setting.

The USPSTF Grade A and B Recommendations, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Bright Futures initiative and DHCS Medi-Cal Provider Manual advise **tobacco, alcohol and drug use screening and assessment with appropriate follow-up action as necessary should begin to occur at 11 years of age and include pregnant women.** This nationally recognized best practice is known as **Alcohol and Drug Screening, Assessment, Brief Interventions and Referral to Treatment (SABIRT)**, formerly known as Screening, Brief Intervention & Referral for Treatment (SBIRT).

As of October 11, 2021, IEHP will cover payment for the following SABIRT services rendered to Members 11 years and older, including pregnant women:

1. **When the Member answers “yes” to the alcohol prescreen question** on the Staying Healthy Assessment (SHA), the PCP must conduct screening for unhealthy alcohol and drug use using any of the validated screening tools listed below.

PCPs must document which screening tool is used in the Member’s medical record:

- Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT-C);
- Brief Addiction Monitor (BAM);
- Cut Down-Annoyed-Guilty-Eye-Opener Adapted to Include Drugs (CAGE-AID);
- Tobacco Alcohol, Prescription Medications and other Substances (TAPS);
- National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) Quick Screen for Adults;
- Drug Abuse Screening Test (DAST-10);
- Parents, Partner, Past, and Present (4Ps) for pregnant women and adolescents;
- Car, Relax, Alone, Forget, Friends, Trouble (CRAFFT) for non-pregnant adolescents; and
- Michigan Alcoholism Screening Test Geriatric (MAST-G) alcohol screening for geriatric population.

These screening tools can be found at <https://www.iehp.org/en/providers/special-programs>

2. **When the Member's screening is positive**, the PCP must assess whether unhealthy alcohol use or substance use disorder is present, using any of the validated assessment tools listed below.

PCPs must document which assessment tool is used in the Member's medical record:

- Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT);
- Brief Addiction Monitor (BAM);
- NIDA-Modified Alcohol, Smoking and Substance Involvement Screening Test (NM-ASSIST); and
- Drug Abuse Screening Test (DAST-20).

These assessment tools can be found at <https://www.iehp.org/en/providers/special-programs>

3. **Immediate intervention must be offered to Members.** To meet this requirement PCPs must:

- Provide feedback to the patient regarding screening and assessment results;
- Discuss negative consequences that have occurred and the overall severity of the problem;
- Support the patient in making behavioral changes; and
- Discuss and agree on plans for follow-up with the patient, including referral to other treatment if indicated.

4. **The following must be documented in the Member's medical record:**

- The service provided (e.g., screen and brief intervention);
- The name of the screening instrument and the score on the screening instrument (unless the screening tool is embedded in the electronic health record);
- The name of the assessment instrument (when indicated) and the score on the assessment (unless the screening tool is embedded in the electronic health record); and
- If and where a referral to an AUD or SUD program was made.

Referral Process

Providers who identify a potential need for services are responsible for referring Members to the appropriate entity:

IEHP Medi-Cal Members

Riverside County Residents

Substance Use Community Access, Referral,
Evaluation, and Support
(800) 499-3008

San Bernardino County Residents

Substance Abuse Referral Service
(800) 968-2636

IEHP DualChoice Cal MediConnect Plan (Medicare-Medicaid Plan) Members

IEHP Behavioral Health & Care Management Department
Provider Line: (909) 890-2054 or (866) 223-4347
Member Line: (877) 273-4347, Fax Number: (909) 890-5763

Billing and Coding

Medi-Cal			
Billing Code	Description	When to Use	Frequency Limit
G0442	Annual alcohol misuse screening, 15 minutes	Alcohol use screening	1 per year, per provider
H0049	Alcohol and/or drug screening	Drug use screening	1 per year, per provider
H0050+	Alcohol and/or drug services, brief intervention, per 15 minutes	Alcohol misuse counseling or counseling regarding the need for further evaluation/ treatment	1 per day, per provider

Medicare	
Billing Code	Description
G2011	Alcohol and/or substance (other than tobacco) misuse structured assessment, and brief intervention, 5 to 14 minutes
G0396	Alcohol and/or substance (other than tobacco) misuse structured assessment, and brief intervention, 15 to 30 minutes
G0397	Alcohol and/or substance (other than tobacco) misuse structured assessment, and intervention, greater than 30 minutes

Claim Submission

For Medi-Cal Members, IEHP is responsible for processing claims for SABIRT services. Providers may bill an electronic CMS-1500 claim form with payer ID: IEHP1 or submit a standard CMS-1500 Claim form to:

IEHP - Claims
P.O. Box 4349
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91729-1800

For IEHP DualChoice Cal MediConnect Members, the Member's assigned IPA is responsible for processing claims for SABIRT services unless billed by a Behavioral Health (BH) Provider. BH Providers will bill IEHP electronically or via the mailing address above.

Monitoring & Oversight

IEHP will continue to conduct Facility Site Review (FSR) and Medical Record Review (MRR) surveys on all PCP sites to ensure their capacity to support the safe and effective provision of these services.

For more information and resources, please visit:

<https://www.iehp.org/en/providers/special-programs?target=sabirt>

As a reminder, all communications sent by IEHP can also be found on our Provider portal at www.iehp.org
> For Providers > Plan Updates > Correspondence

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the IEHP Provider Relations Team at (909) 890-2054, (866) 223-4347, or email ProviderServices@iehp.org.