

SUD Medical Directors COVID-19 WebEx
Thursday, April 16, 2020 | 1-2pm
Executive Summary

Dr. Nicole Esposito, County Behavioral Health Services Department (BHS) Assistant Clinical Director, convene DMC-ODS Medical Directors (MDs) on a weekly basis via WebEx to provide updates regarding COVID-19 response efforts as well as to respond to questions. The group reconvened on Thursday, April 16th at 1pm.

Dr. Luke Bergmann, County BHS Director, expressed his gratitude to Medical Directors for their ongoing feedback to inform the needs within the County, as well as shared some opportunities the County is exploring for additional funding to assist the system.

As a follow-up to last week's meeting, the County Quality Management team confirmed with the State Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) that there is no change in minimum clinical hours for billable days at residential. The question regarding professional liability has been submitted and is still pending a response from DHCS.

The County shared that providers and members of the public can access a daily feed regarding number of confirmed cases, reported tests, hospitalizations, ICU admittances, and deaths in the region from the [County of San Diego ArcGIS COVID-19 Dashboard](#) which is accessible through www.coronavirus-sd.com.

The County recommended that in a situation wherein a program (that is not the ordering facility) hears about a positive test for client or staff, to reach out for guidance from Public Health Services Epidemiology at **(619) 692-8499** within 24-48 hours (if the program was not already contacted by Epidemiology for contact tracing). Clients and health care workers under investigation for COVID-19 or pending lab results should abide by the Public Health Order for [Isolation of All Persons with or Likely to Have COVID-19](#).

Sharing/discussion among MDs included procedures regarding unassigned clients, noting that the capability to register unassigned clients via telephone during COVID has been a great help, and that there has been a notable shift to telehealth. There was a request to share centralized resources such as BH provider contact lists with the MDs; please see attached.

There was a consensus from the group that weekly tele-meetings continue to be beneficial in ongoing COVID-19 support.