Dr. Nicole Esposito, County Behavioral Health Services Department (BHS) Assistant Clinical Director, convenes DMC-ODS Medical Directors (MDs) on a bi-weekly basis via WebEx to provide updates regarding the County’s COVID-19 response efforts as well as to dialog on issues faced by MDs during the COVID-19 emergency. The group reconvened on Thursday, July 9th at 1pm.

County BHS 1) shared the latest available BHS dashboard during COVID-19 (copy attached separately) and reminded that telehealth/telephone contacts should not replace face-to-face treatment when clinically indicated; 2) communicated BHAB’s interest in testing coordination efforts in BHS programs, noting that BHAB voting members are appointed representatives the County’s Board of Supervisors; 3) recognized the SUD/DMC Medical Directors’ leadership in coordinating testing efforts; 4) mentioned collecting testing coordination efforts within residential and SUD outpatient facilities; and 5) shared that each of the 27 residential programs have been contacted by the EOC/T3 Testing Team to coordinate on-site testing.

County Public Health Services Medical Consultant Dr. Sayone Thihalolipavan was able to join the meeting and he 1) gave an update on local COVID-19 statistics via the County of San Diego’s ArcGIS COVID-19 Dashboard; 2) shared that ResCare is a new contractor providing services at temp hotel/lodging; and 3) mentioned the 200+ doctors’ letter to the WHO. The dialogue among the MDs included testing experience, testing types, staffing concerns, continued MAT during quarantine, screening clients, tracking testing, and frequency of testing.

A list of Health Center Partners and Neighborhood Healthcare Clinics with adjusted hours and closures (as of 6/25/20) was sent to the group on June 30th. The list did not include FHC.