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 23rd at 1pm.

County BHS shared the current COVID-19 numbers that are accessible via the County of San Diego’s ArcGIS COVID-19 Dashboard and referenced the recent CDC report showing the rise in the number of national overdose deaths. County BHS is currently exploring other options for high acuity care aside beyond the hotel rooms.

MDs shared their experiences and dialogued on a variety of topics, including CDC rules, managing the process of sending COVID-19-positive SUD clients to temp lodging/hotel, validity of COVID-19 test results, feasibility of quick-result COVID-19 tests, and a request for guidance for the management of COVID-19 positive staff.

There was consensus from the group that continuing to meet on a bi-weekly basis is beneficial in ongoing COVID-19 support.