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, August 20th at 1pm.

County BHS shared updates and information on: 1) the County COVID-19 Triggers for Modifying Health Officer Order Dashboard; 2) information on the statewide BHS budget forecast, including the key assumption of revenue decline and cumulative impact; 3) CaHAN Update #17: Updated COVID-19 Testing Guidance and Additional Updates released on August 17th; 4) healthcare worker testing through regular testing pathways via their medical provider or a County testing site; 5) encouragement to prepare for the upcoming flu season & being informed on clients’ immunization using the San Diego Immunization Registry (SDIR), and; 6) local Fentanyl overdose deaths on the rise with a CAHAN forthcoming.

MDs shared and dialogued on a variety of topics, including program testing and isolation strategies, need for longitudinal outcome strategies/tracking, and modification of COVID-19 blanket exemption for take-homes at other OTPs.

Current COVID-19 numbers can be accessed anytime via the County of San Diego’s ArcGIS COVID-19 Dashboard.