




DocuSigned by:  
 By:   
 Maryn A. Tribble, PsyD, LCSW, Director

<p><b>POLICY TITLE</b></p> <p><b>Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) Notification</b></p>	<p><b>Policy No: 403-6-1</b></p> <p><b>Date of Original Approval: 1/7/14</b></p> <p><b>Date(s) of Revision(s): 9/27/2021</b></p>
--	--

**PURPOSE**

This policy establishes the requirements for notifying beneficiaries under age 21 placed in Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNF), Institutions for Mental Disease IMD, Mental Health Rehabilitation Centers (MHRC), and Short Term Therapeutic Programs (STRTPs) and their guardians of available Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) services and Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS).

**AUTHORITY**

- California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 9, §1810
- Department of Mental Health Information Notice 08-38
- Department of Mental Health Letters 01-07, 04-04, 04-11

**SCOPE**

All Alameda County Behavioral Health Services (ACBH) county-operated programs in addition to entities, individuals, and programs providing mental health and substance use services under a contract or subcontract with ACBH.

**POLICY**

ACBH will provide EPSDT Medi-Cal beneficiaries under 21 (or their guardians, if under 18), information about EPSDT services and TBS:

1. At the time of admission to a Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) with a Specialized Treatment Program (STP) for the mental disordered, or a Mental Health Rehabilitation Center (MHRC ) that has been designated as an Institution for Mental Disease (IMD) or,
2. At the time of placement in a Short Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP).

**PROCEDURE**

- I. Psychiatric Hospitals including SNF, MHRC designated as IMDs

SNFs and MHRCs designated as IMD sites serving Alameda County beneficiaries will distribute the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) EPSDT brochure and TBS information to clients as follows:

- a. Psychiatric sites within Alameda County (1) will make available to each beneficiary under 21 as requested, the attached EPSDT (2) Service Notice brochure and TBS information.
- b. Compliance with this Policy and Procedure will be through Quality Assurance contract requirements.
- c. The Alameda County Behavioral Health Care Services Quality Assurance Department will ensure that all psychiatric hospital sites have access to the Policy and Procedure and EPSDT Service Notice brochure and TBS information as a downloadable PDF on the BHCS website that may be printed and distributed to beneficiaries via this link <http://www.acbhcs.org/providers/QI/index.htm>

## II. Short Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP)

Alameda County Medi-Cal beneficiaries placed in STRTPs will be provided the EPSDT Service Notice brochure and TBS information by their placing worker.

- a. All STRTP placements must be approved by the Interagency Children's Placement Committee (IPRC).
- b. At the time of approval, the EPSDT Service Notice brochure will be attached to the STRTP approval form and forwarded by the IPRC agency representative to the placing agency or Mental Health worker coordinating the placement.
- c. The worker will give a copy of the brochure and TBS information to the youth and/or their caregiver, parent, guardian, or dependency worker during placement.

Probation, Social Service and Mental Health placement workers will be notified by the departmental IPRC representative from the placing agency (School District, Mental Health, Probation or Social Services) that downloadable PDF copies of the Policies and Procedures for EPSDT Service Notice brochure and TBS information are available on the Alameda County Behavioral Health Care Services website and can be printed and distributed to beneficiaries via this link: <http://www.acbhcs.org/providers/Main/Index.htm>

## **NON-COMPLIANCE**

Procedures to be completed in the event of a policy non-compliance:

- I. Where individuals do not abide by the procedures, the direct supervisor and Child and Young Adult System of Care ([InfoACBH.CYASOC@acgov.org](mailto:InfoACBH.CYASOC@acgov.org)) will be notified to take corrective action, including reviewing the policy and or other disciplinary action.
- II. Definition of the non-compliance: Any failure to abide by the stated policy.
- III. Reports of non-compliance can be made in writing or verbally to supervisors, and staff shall not face retribution for reporting non-compliance.
- IV. Reports of non-compliance shall be communicated to supervisors and Child and Young Adult System of Care within 72 hours to ensure timely response and corrective action.

- V. Any communication that contains protected health information or otherwise confidential information should be sent through secure methods such as email with secure encryption.
- VI. Should an emergency situation arise where conformance with this policy is impractical, the supervisor(s) and Division Director will be notified immediately.

**CONTACT**

ACBH Office	Current Date	Email/Phone
Child and Young Adult System of Care	9/24/21	<a href="mailto:InfoACBH.CYASOC@acgov.org">InfoACBH.CYASOC@acgov.org</a>
Network Office	9/24/21	<a href="mailto:Contracts@acgov.org">Contracts@acgov.org</a>
Billing & Benefits Support	9/24/21	(510) 383-1582
Utilization Management	9/24/21	(510) 567-8141
Quality Assurance	9/24/21	<a href="mailto:QAOffice@acgov.org">QAOffice@acgov.org</a>
Quality Improvement	9/24/21	<a href="mailto:QITeam@acgov.org">QITeam@acgov.org</a>

**DISTRIBUTION**

This policy will be distributed to the following:

- ACBH Staff
- ACBH Contract Providers
- Public

**ISSUANCE AND REVISION HISTORY**

**Original Authors:** Donna Fone, Quality Assurance Administrator

**Original Date of Approval:** 1/7/14 by Aaron Chapman, MD, Interim Mental Health Director

Revision Author	Reason for Revision	Date of Approval by (Name, Title)
Lisa Carlisle, Director, Child and Young Adult System of Care	Updated to meet new state requirements	9/27/2021 by Karyn L. Tribble, PsyD, LCSW, Behavioral Health Director

**DEFINITIONS**

Term	Definition
<b>Early Periodic Screening Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT)</b>	Medi-Cal services for clients under the age of 21 that correct or improve mental health problems that a physician or other health care provider finds, even if the health problem will not go away entirely.

<b>Institution for Mental Disease (IMD)</b>	An institution for mental diseases is defined in the law as any hospital, nursing facility, or other institution of more than 16 beds, that is primarily engaged in providing diagnosis, treatment, or care of persons with mental diseases, including medical attention, nursing care and related services.
<b>Interagency Children's Placement Committee (IPRC)</b>	A team comprised of representatives from the county placing agencies with statutory authority for the care, custody, and control of a child, and a representative from the county Mental Health Plan.
<b>Mental Health Rehabilitation Center (MHRC)</b>	A mental health rehabilitation center is a 24-hour program which provides intensive support and rehabilitative services designed to assist persons, 18 years or older, with mental disorders who would have been placed in a state hospital or another mental health facility to develop skills to become self-sufficient and capable of increasing levels of independence and functioning.
<b>Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF)</b>	A type of nursing home recognized by the Medicare and Medicaid systems as meeting long term health care needs for individuals who have potential to function independently after a limited period of care.
<b>Short Term Therapeutic Program (STRTP)</b>	A residential facility operated by a public agency or private organization that provides an integrated program of specialized and intensive care and supervision, services and supports, treatment, and short-term 24-hour care and supervision to children and nonminor dependents. The care and supervision provided shall be nonmedical, except as otherwise permitted by law.
<b>Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS)</b>	An intensive, individualized, one-to-one behavioral mental health service. TBS is a therapeutic intervention used in addition to primary specialty mental health services.