



# San Mateo County BHRS Private Provider Network (PPN) Documentation Requirements

***Presented by BHRS Quality Management  
& Access Call Center 2019***

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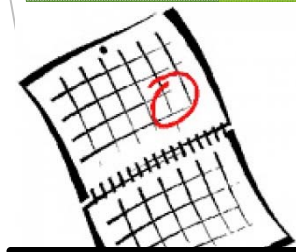
V11.12.19





## Top Areas of Concern

- ▶ Difficulty getting charts in a timely fashion from providers
- ▶ Providers not having official charts
- ▶ Some providers not writing Progress Notes
- ▶ Documents not signed by provider
- ▶ Documents missing key information to identify the client and/or service

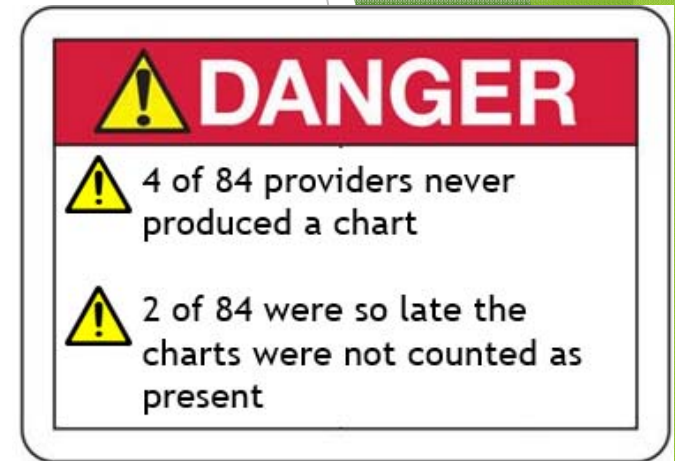


Providers are **REQUIRED** to produce charts for audits within the requested timeframe



# Maintenance of Medical Records

- ▶ **Official Medical Record** - You must maintain an “OFFICIAL” medical record of your care
- ▶ **Signed**- With INK or Certified Electronic Signature
- ▶ **Legible**- Records must be legible (typing is strongly recommended)
- ▶ **Secured**- Records should be securely stored, behind 2 locks
- ▶ **Maintained**- All clinical records are to be maintained **for at least 10 years** from the last date of service
- ▶ **For Minors**- Records **MUST** be kept at least one year **AFTER** the minor has reached the age of 18, but in no case less than 10 years from last date of service



Source Electronic Signature

[https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/medi-cal/eligibility/Documents/ACWDL/2019/19\\_17.pdf](https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/medi-cal/eligibility/Documents/ACWDL/2019/19_17.pdf)



## What is an “Official Medical Record?”

### Option 1

- ▶ An old fashion binder or medical record folder
- ▶ All papers are secured in the folder in a systematic order

### Option 2

- ▶ An external software program (not on your computer)
- ▶ The charts must be backed-up and secure

#### List of EMRs:

[https://www.capterra.com/sem-compare/electronic-medical-records-software?gclid=CjwKCAjw3c\\_tBRA4EiwAICs8Cj5ffAmjN2Yp6D1KYRJBkuJIWFKI3Zv1ZTb75K3CgSBS9Gt2nlufqhoCrQkQAvD\\_BwE](https://www.capterra.com/sem-compare/electronic-medical-records-software?gclid=CjwKCAjw3c_tBRA4EiwAICs8Cj5ffAmjN2Yp6D1KYRJBkuJIWFKI3Zv1ZTb75K3CgSBS9Gt2nlufqhoCrQkQAvD_BwE)



### NOT an Official Medical Record:

- ~~Folder on your computer with word docs and PDFs~~
- ~~A legal pad with progress notes written on them~~
- ~~A bunch of papers in a loose folder or drawer~~



## What goes in the Clinical Record?

Providers must maintain a clinical record for each client. Every document related to the client's care must be maintained in the chart.

Examples:

- ▶ Consent to Treatment
- ▶ Release of Information (as needed)
- ▶ BHRS Managed Care Assessment and Treatment Plan
- ▶ Progress Notes (BHRS template strongly recommended)





## Every Page of the Medical Record **MUST** Include:

- ▶ Client's name, DOB, & MR # or Billing #
- ▶ "Date of service" & "Signature date"
- ▶ Provider's name & signature with license type & number
- ▶ **Your name and credentials must be clear:**
  - ▶ printed and signed when written in ink OR you must have a valid electronic signature



**NOT an  
Electronic  
Signature**

- ~~Signing in Word by typing your name~~
- ~~Signing in a PDF~~

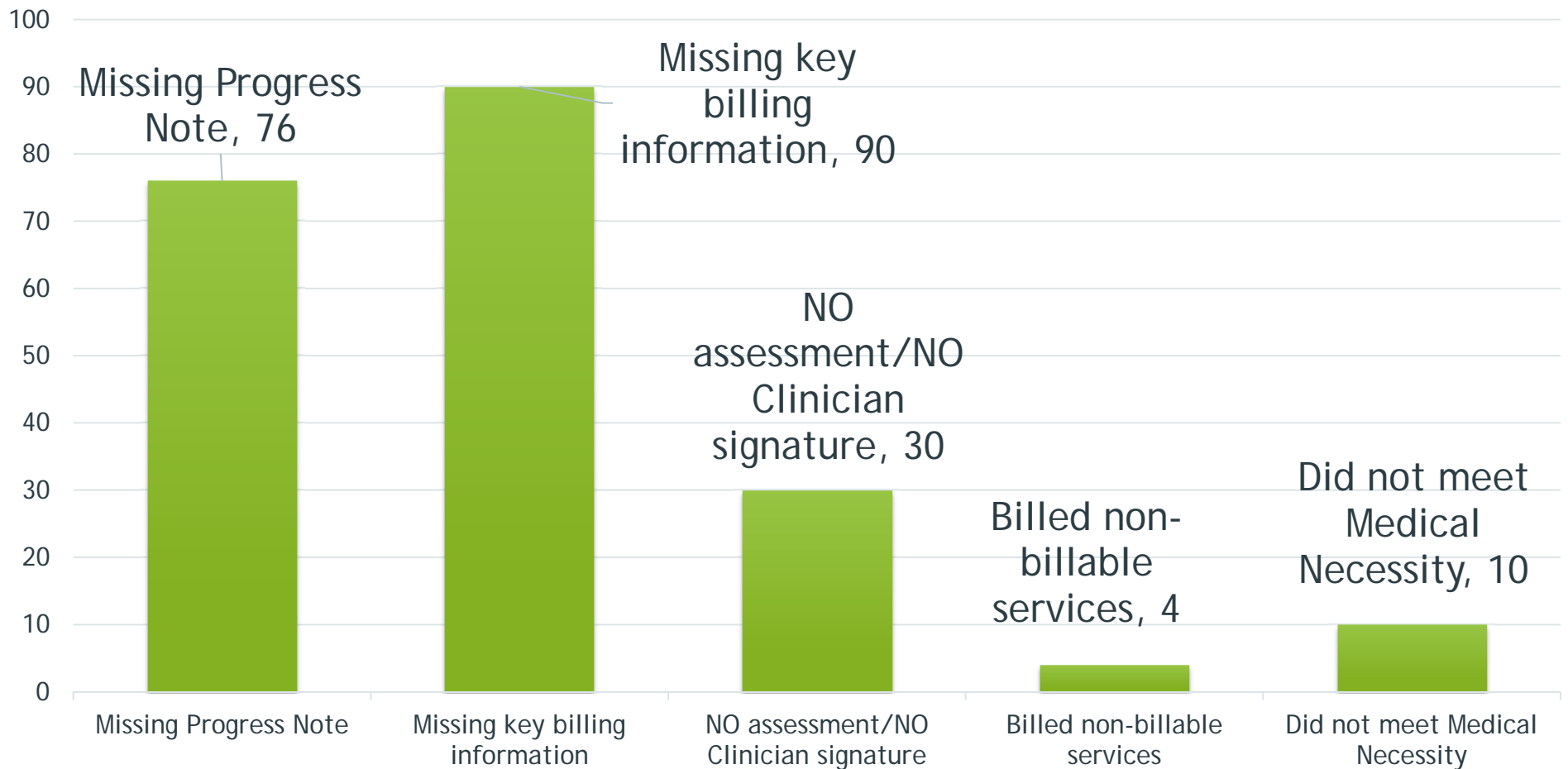
Source Electronic Signature

<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/medi-cal/eligibility/Documents/ACWDL/2019/19-17.pdf>



## Who has the right to the Clinical Records?

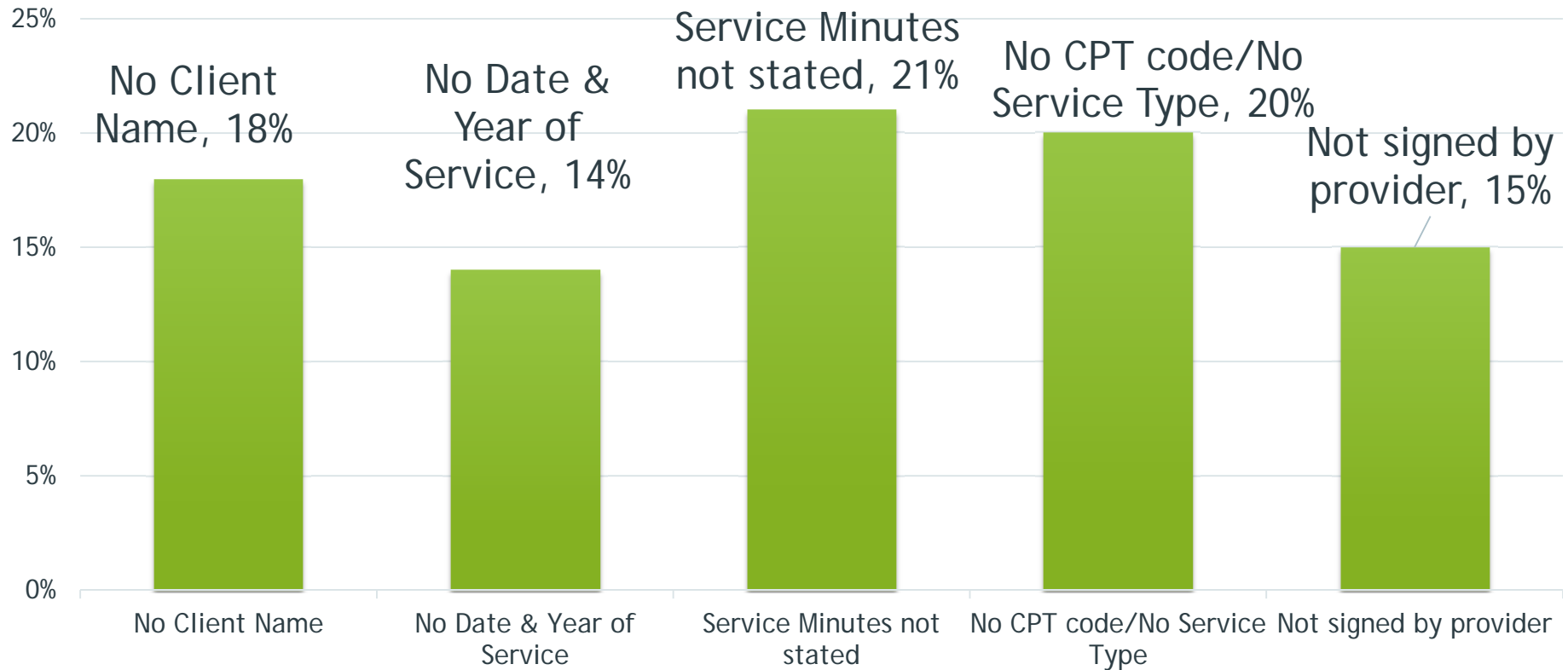
- ▶ Clients (\*there are a few exceptions)
- ▶ BHRS
- ▶ Payer/Insurance (DHCS, HPSM , etc.)
- ▶ Concurrent providers may receive copies of documents, when appropriate.



# Recent Audit Finding of PPN (N= 640 Services )

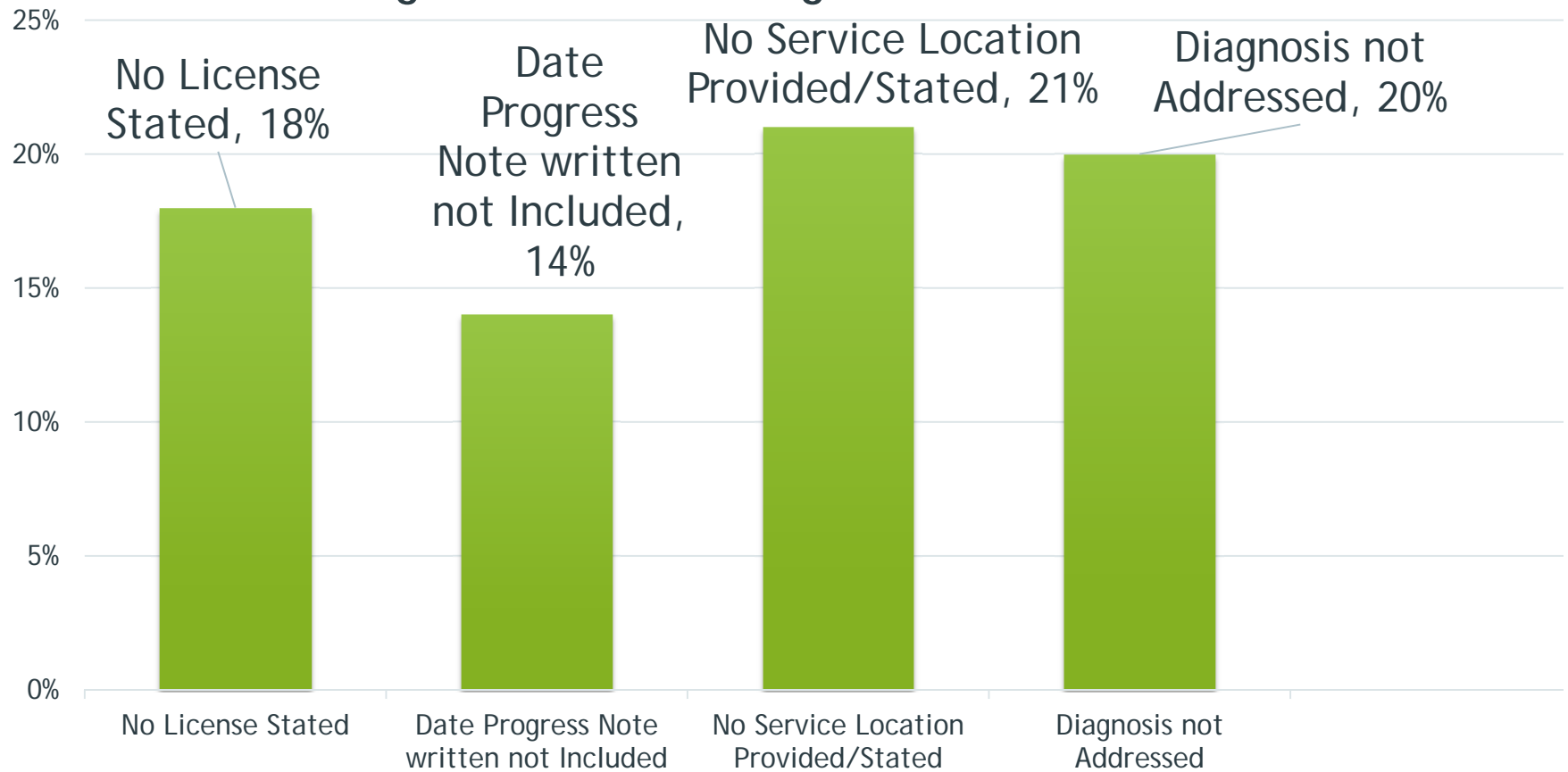


## % Missing Key Element on Progress Note



**Immediate Cause for Disallowance**

## % Missing Element on Progress Note



**At Risk of Disallowance**



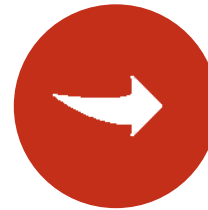
Consent to Treatment  
NOT present: 36%



Assessment form  
completed but missing  
key components: 59%



Client Plan did NOT describe  
Intervention details.  
Frequency: (17%)  
Duration: (15%)  
How the Intervention will  
address the diagnosis-related  
impairments: (13%)



Client not offered a copy of  
Treatment Plan: 31%



Many Progress Notes  
were late & many  
Progress Notes not dated



Many Progress Notes  
were missing key  
elements

# Charts Submitted for Audit



## Documentation Overview

- ▶ The Initial ASSESSMENT authorization allows for 60 days & 2 assessment sessions (or 3 for youth), to complete the assessment and treatment plan.
- ▶ Complete/submit the **assessment** and **treatment plan** to request additional services.
- ▶ Once you receive your treatment authorization, treatment/billing for therapy services may start.
- ▶ A new assessment is due **every three years**.
- ▶ An updated treatment plan is due **every time you request additional services**.
- ▶ Authorized time can vary, but is never longer than a year.
- ▶ Progress notes are completed every time that you provide a service.



# Cultural & Linguistic Competence

- ▶ **Indicate and Document** whether services in a language other than English were provided, the language needed, and whether an interpreter was used.
- ▶ **Consent Forms** must be provided in the client's preferred language.
- ▶ **Treatment Plan Goals** should be written in client's preferred language.

Document how you address cultural/linguistic needs in:

- Consents
- Progress notes
- Assessment
- Client plans



*“Today’s session was provided in the client’s preferred language of Spanish by this clinician.”  
OR “language line was utilized.”*



# Medical Necessity & Diagnosis

## *“The Clinical Loop”*

The Assessment, Treatment Plan, & Progress Notes should all tie together to demonstrate Medical Necessity AND:

- ▶ Include a **Covered** mental health diagnosis.
- ▶ Demonstrate significant **Functional Impairment** (present, or expected if untreated).
- ▶ Include the **Intervention** proposed, (*on a Treatment Plan*) that addresses the impairment.
- ▶ Supported by **symptoms and functional impairments** as documented on the most current assessment.



# Medical Necessity & Diagnosis



**All tie together in the “Clinical Loop”**

1. Assessments **MUST** document Medical Necessity
2. Treatment Plans **MUST** address Medical Necessity
3. Progress Notes **MUST** address Medical Necessity







## Assessment Key Facts

The *Assessment* must:

- ▶ Be current and updated.
- ▶ Provide a clear picture of the client's mental health status and functional impairments.
- ▶ Include provider's signature (ink or E-Signature) with degree/license number & job title/date of provider signature (*i.e., date document completed*).



# Assessment

## Must include all 10 Elements below:

- ▶ Presenting problem
- ▶ Relevant conditions and psychosocial factors affecting the client's physical and mental health (Medical Necessity)
- ▶ Mental health history
- ▶ Medical history
- ▶ Medications (even for non-prescribers, per client report)
- ▶ Substance exposure and use
- ▶ Mental Status Exam
- ▶ Strengths
- ▶ Risks and Barriers relevant to achieving treatment plan goals
- ▶ DSM diagnosis (and/current ICD code)



## Treatment Plans

- ▶ Based on current assessment and present mental health condition/diagnosis.
- ▶ Describes the client's goals, the therapy goal, objectives, your **interventions**; expected **duration** and **frequency**.
- ▶ Must be developed with the client and individualized to address the client's specific mental health needs.



## Treatment Plan: Goal

- ▶ Addresses the problem
- ▶ Is the development of new skills or removal of the barrier/problem
- ▶ Must relate to the diagnosis and case formulation
- ▶ Must be specific and measurable

**GOAL** - Development of new skills/behaviors and reduction, stabilization, or removal of symptoms/impairments.

Ct will increase her ability to cope with her depression and worries and as a result will decrease her depressive sx from 5 days per week to 3 days per week.



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## Treatment Plan: Objectives

- ▶ Include what client will do to accomplish the goal
- ▶ Must be specific, observable, and measurable



# SMART

Simple, Measurable, Accurate, Realistic, Time-bound.

**OBJECTIVES** - Client's next steps to achieving goal. Must be **observable, measurable and time-limited** objectives that address **symptoms/impairments** linked to the **primary diagnosis**.

Ct will identify depressive thoughts and feelings and use CBT techniques to manage distressing thoughts at least 2x/week.  
Ct will engage in health-promoting social activities (ex: socialize with a friend, attending a class in the community) at least 1x/week.

Ct will take a 20-minutes self care (ex: walking, yoga, listening to music etc) at least 3x/week.



# Treatment Plan: Intervention

An **Intervention** is what YOU, the provider will do to:

- ▶ Diminish the impairment - IMPROVE level of functioning, OR;
- ▶ Prevent deterioration - MAINTAIN current level of functioning, AND;
- ▶ Address the goals/objectives on the treatment plan



## Treatment Plan: Intervention

- ▶ The client treatment plan describes, in detail, the interventions proposed for each service type: Individual Therapy, Medication Support...etc.

**INTERVENTIONS** – Describe in detail the interventions proposed for each service type: Individual Therapy, Medication Support...etc. (E.g. – Clinician will provide individual therapy, utilizing cognitive-behavioral techniques, to assist client with decreasing his depressive symptoms.)

Clinician will provide weekly individual therapy, utilizing cognitive behavioral techniques, to assist client with decreasing his depressive symptoms.



# Treatment Plan: Signatures



- ▶ Clients are expected to participate in developing their treatment plan.
- ▶ Clients must sign their plan or the provider must write a very good progress note explaining the missing signature.
- ▶ Document client participation, **agreement with the plan**, and if a copy was **offered** to the client.
- ▶ Provider must date the plan, include credentials & license number, and name must be **printed and signed**.

**\*\*\*must be able to read name/credentials\*\*\***

Client Signature: _____	Date: _____
Parent/Guardian Signature: _____	Date: _____
Provider Signature: _____	License No. _____ Date: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Copy offered to client/accepted, <input type="checkbox"/> Copy offered/declined, <input type="checkbox"/> Unable to offer Copy-See prog. note dated: _____	







## Progress Note Requirements

- ▶ Client's Name & MR#
- ▶ Date of Service, CPT code/service, number of minutes for service & documentation time, location where the service was provided
- ▶ Provider's signature, license
- ▶ **Your name and credentials must be clear:**
  - ▶ printed and signed when written in ink OR you must have a valid Electronic Signature
- ▶ Date the progress note was written

Printed Name/Signature & License or Job Title of Clinician Providing Service/Writing Note

Date Signed



## Progress Notes

There must be a **Progress Note** in the medical record **for each** service billed to San Mateo County and:

- ✓ Written within **3 days** of service
- ✓ Be **clear, & concise**
- ✓ Describe service provided
- ✓ Diagnosis, goal/behavior addressed
- ✓ Provider's interventions to address the client's diagnosis and functional impairments
- ✓ Reflect how the service **diminished the impairment** or **prevented deterioration**
- ✓ Client's response and outcome
- ✓ Referrals or follow-up, when appropriate



# Summary of Top Areas of Concern

- ✓ Providers **not maintaining official charts**
- ✓ Providers **not producing charts in a timely fashion**
- ✓ Progress Notes **not including all required billing elements**
- ✓ Providers **not signing documents**



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## BEHAVIORAL HEALTH & RECOVERY SERVICES

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# Resources

Fillable forms and helpful resources are located at BHRS Managed Care Provider webpage: <https://www.smchealth.org/bhrs/contracts>

Consent Forms:

<https://www.smchealth.org/consents>

Information on interpretation services:

<https://www.hpsm.org/provider/resources/language-services>

DHCS Covered Diagnosis:

<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/MH/Documents/Information%20Notices/I N-17-004E/MHSUDS IN 17-004E Enclosures 2.pdf>

Complete forms are sent to the Access Call Center:

Fax to: 650-596-8065

Mail to Access Call Center – 310 Harbor Blvd., Bldg. E, Belmont, CA 94002



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# Questions

