

LEGISLATIVE NEWS | CALIFORNIA

Kaiser Permanente Large Group *Evidence of Coverage* Update Notification



To comply with requirements of the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act (MHPAEA), Kaiser Permanente made changes to our coverage of mental health and chemical dependency services. As 2015 contracts renew or are amended, we're revising *Evidence of Coverage (EOC)* documents to reflect those changes. **These changes don't affect rates or access to care.**

When it's prescribed by a plan physician, we cover care at licensed residential treatment facilities in our service area. Facilities must provide 24-hour individualized treatment for chemical dependency or mental health. The following services are covered when they're above the level of custodial care at one of these facilities:

- ▶ individual or group chemical dependency or mental health counseling
- ▶ medical services
- ▶ room and board
- ▶ social services
- ▶ medication monitoring
- ▶ drugs prescribed by a plan provider as part of the patient's care, in accord with our drug formulary guidelines, and administered in the facility by medical personnel
- ▶ discharge planning

Additionally, the non-Medicare *EOCs*' cost share disclosures will be revised as follows (For the purpose of this notification, "non-Medicare *EOCs*" means all *EOCs* other than Senior Advantage *EOCs*.):

- ▶ In all *EOCs*, we've added a disclosure of the cost share for chemical dependency day treatment and intensive outpatient services. The cost share for chemical dependency day treatment and intensive outpatient services is the same cost share as outpatient surgery, up to a maximum of the cost share for primary care visits.
- ▶ In *EOCs* where the cost share for hospital inpatient care is "no charge" and the cost share for chemical dependency residential treatment is a copayment, the cost share for chemical dependency residential treatment has been revised to be "no charge."
- ▶ In *EOCs* where the deductible doesn't apply to outpatient surgery, the deductible doesn't apply to the following mental health or chemical dependency services either:
 - partial hospitalization programs
 - intensive outpatient programs
 - day treatment programs

We have already made the coverage and cost share changes reflected in this notice. When you receive services, you will pay the cost share shown in this notice. If your *EOC* doesn't currently reflect the changes described above, you may see these changes in your *EOC* at renewal. If you have any questions about changes we've made to meet MHPAEA requirements, please contact your Kaiser Permanente representative.