



# TIPS



## Important Reminders for AOD Providers

### MEDICAL DIRECTOR RESPONSIBILITIES

In the last fiscal year, DHCS audits looked for evidence of the specific requirements regarding SUD medical director's responsibilities. Remember that at a minimum, your programs' medical director's responsibilities shall include and ensure that all the following are met:

- Medical care provided by physicians, registered nurse practitioners, and physician assistants meets the applicable standard of care.
- Physicians do not delegate their duties to non-physician personnel.
- Develop and implement medical policies and standards for the provider.
- Physicians, registered nurse practitioners, and physician assistants follow the provider's medical policies and standards.
- Medical decisions made by physicians are not influenced by fiscal considerations.
- Provider's physicians are adequately trained to perform diagnosis of substance use disorders for beneficiaries, determine the medical necessity of treatment for beneficiaries and perform other physician duties, as outlined in this section.
- The substance use disorder medical director may delegate his/her responsibilities to a physician consistent with the provider's medical policies and standards; however, the substance use disorder medical director shall remain responsible for ensuring all delegated duties are properly performed.
- Consistent with these responsibilities, we'd also like to inform you that programs must have written roles and responsibilities and a code of conduct for the medical director that is clearly documented, signed and dated by a provider representative and the physician.

### AUGUST 2019



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SUD Tip Sheet #3

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