



To: All SUD and MH Contract Providers

From: Dr. Trista Carr, Clinical Informatics Analyst

Cc: Chris Marlow, DHS-BHD QAPI Section Manager

Date: March 1, 2024

RE: Interoperability and Patient Access Standards

This memo serves as a reminder to all contracting agencies providing services for the Sonoma County Department of Health Services Behavioral Health Division (DHS-BHD) that all mental health and substance abuse treatment providers must adhere to the interoperability and patient access standards set forth in the State of California—Health and Human Services Agency Department of Health Care Services Behavioral Health Information Notices (BHIN) [No: 22-068](#) and [No: 23-032](#).

All contracting agencies participating with Sonoma County DHS-BHD in the SmartCare electronic health record system project by way of full data entry do not have any additional steps to take, as they are also participating with Sonoma County in the CalMHSA Connex solution for meeting all the necessary requirements included in the abovementioned BHINs.

Those contracting agencies that are not utilizing Sonoma County's SmartCare electronic health record system for full data entry of all beneficiary services have the responsibility to ensure that they meet all necessary regulatory and technical requirements noted in BHINs [No: 22-068](#) and [No: 23-032](#).

If you have any questions, please email Trista.Carr@sonoma-county.org