

The Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System in Fresno County

What is Drug Medi-Cal?

Drug Medi-Cal (DMC) is a separate branch of Medi-Cal created in the late 1970s specifically to reimburse Substance Use Disorder (SUD) treatment services. It funds a limited range of services – primarily outpatient counseling and methadone treatment – using a rate setting methodology established in the mid-1990s.

What is the Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System (DMC-ODS)?

The DMC-ODS is a pilot program to test a new model for the delivery of services for Medicaid eligible individuals with a SUD. The DMC-ODS will expand the range of services available to people with Medi-Cal, increase provider payment rates and expand access to care for low income populations. The DMC-ODS will also establish rules for organizing individual SUD treatment programs into a network structured according to American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) principles and will foster greater integration of SUD services with primary care and mental health services.

What services will be available?

- Outpatient counseling with fewer restrictions on individual sessions.
- Intensive outpatient services are the same as above but the client may receive services for 9 or more hours per week.
- Withdrawal management (detox) in outpatient and residential settings. Medications may be used as prescribed by the treatment program physician.
- Residential treatment for up to 90 days.
- Case management services to assist clients in accessing services in the community and in transferring to other levels of SUD treatment.
- Opioid treatment (methadone) will be available as it is currently. Other opioid treatment medications may also be provided.
- Other SUD treatment medications will also be available as prescribed by the treatment program physician.
- Recovery Support Services (Aftercare) will be available to all clients to help them stay clean and sober after the treatment episode is completed.
- Expanded availability of services for youth.

How will the DMC-ODS affect communities in Fresno County?

- Services will be available for all Medi-Cal beneficiaries and at no charge.
- Services will be provided in the most common languages spoken in Fresno County (Spanish and Hmong).
- A treatment access line will be available on a 24/7 basis.
- Clients will be medically evaluated to determine the best approach to their treatment.

How do we get there?

Fresno County will prepare a plan describing how the DMC-ODS will operate and how it will comply with State and Federal regulations. In developing the DMC-ODS implementation plan we will be seeking advice from clients, their families, community members, SUD treatment providers and other interested parties. We want to be sure that DMC-ODS services are accessible and effective for all.