

San Diego County Children & Youth Medi-Cal Mental Health Severity Analysis

All standards should be reviewed in the context of a child's age and developmental stage

Mental Health Plan will follow Medical Necessity Criteria for Medi-Cal Specialty Mental Health Services described in Title 9, CCR

	Mild (1)	Moderate (2)	Severe (3)	(0) N/A
Risk (suicidal/violent, high risk behavior, catastrophic illness/loss, criminogenic behavior, impulsivity, insight, ego discordance)	Comments about death/dying made in the context of being angry, frustrated No history of DTS/DTO Impulse control poor for age Lapses in judgment/"forgets" to think of consequences Immature choices Decline in educational performance due to mood/behavior	Passive suicidal ideation/non-suicidal self-injury Judgment often immature for age Choices cause impairment in school/family/social settings Little insight; doesn't understand cause/effect Persistent educational decline despite intervention	Current/recent suicidal ideation, intent or plan or recent attempt with clear expectation of death Recurrent psychiatric hospitalizations Unable to consider cause/effect Creates dangerous situations due to impulsive behaviors Intentional choices to harm others/property; carries a weapon Minimal insight At risk of losing educational placement due to mood, behavior Running away overnight and/or multiple attempts New-onset deliberate fire setting	
Clinical Complexity (serious emotional disturbance vs situational/reactive, recovery status, functional & cognitive impairment, treatment resistance, medication complexity, frequent hospitalization, co-occurring medical and alcohol or drug disorder (AOD))	Adjustment reaction Occasionally anxious, fearful or sad No history of psychotic symptoms Uncomplicated ADHD No significant AOD use or use limited to experimentation	Mood/anxiety causing problems with school/family/peers ADHD with comorbid mood, anxiety symptoms AOD misuse Concern for prodromal symptoms	Significant change in emotional or behavioral functioning for which there is no obvious or recognized precipitant Mood/anxiety interferes with daily functioning in all realms (school/family/peers) Emotional/behavioral problems for which outpatient services have not led to significant improvement New onset psychosis AOD abuse and/or dependence	

	Mild (1)	Moderate (2)	Severe (3)	(0) N/A
Life Circumstances (biopsychosocial assessment, availability of resources, family/social/faith-based support, resilience)	Emotional distress arising in the course of normal life stressors Adequately resourced & supported Resilient Occasional conflict with family/school staff/peers	Primary caretaker has serious emotional impairment or substance abuse problem Poor coping skills Known to authority figures for behavior problems Worsening issues with peers (victimized by peers, increased social isolation)	History of abuse, neglect and/or removal from home with current significant symptoms as a result of this action Loss of educational placement for emotional/behavioral disturbance Known to authority figures as a chronic behavioral problem No friends/loner, avoids former friends Frequent problems with the law	
Benefit of Integrated Care (optimal for stable patients with co-occurring mild to moderate physical and mental illness, limited transportation or unique clinical/cultural needs not well suited for split care)	High (1) Already established, effective care in primary care setting for chronic stable medical + co-occurring mild mental illness/emotional distress	Medium (2) ← High medical, low behavioral High behavioral, low medical →	Low (3) Already established (or pending) care with County provider for complex SED Relies on behavioral health system for resources & support Low recovery	
Total:	Tier 1 (0-4)	Tier 2 (5-8)	Tier 3 (9-12)	
Referrals	Augmented Primary Care Provider (PCP)-Impact Health Plan Network: -Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) -Health Plan Behavioral Health (BH) Network	Health Plan Network: -FQHC -Health Plan BH Network	County Mental Health Plan (MHP): -County Clinics -FQHC -Organizational Provider -Optum Fee-for-Service (FFS) Provider	

SAN DIEGO COUNTY MEDI-CAL MANAGED CARE HEALTH PLANS

<p>Care1st Health Plan (855) 321-2211 Care1st.com</p> 	<p>Community Health Group (800) 404-3332 Chgsd.com</p> 	<p>Health Net (MHN) (888) 426-0030 Healthnet.com</p> 	<p>Kaiser Permanente (877) 496-0450 KP.org</p> 	<p>Molina Healthcare (888) 665-4621 MolinaHealthcare.com</p> 
--	---	--	--	--