



**Children
Now®**



Leveraging the CHW Benefit for Oral Health

Office of Oral Health Project Director's Meeting, February 14, 2024

**Community Health Worker
Benefit**

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**Opportunity to Improve Oral
Health Outcomes**

CHW services may address:

- **the control and prevention of chronic conditions or infectious diseases**
- **oral health**
- **need for preventive services**
- **child health and development**
- mental health conditions and substance use disorders
- perinatal health conditions
- sexual and reproductive health
- environmental and climate-sensitive health issues
- aging
- injury
- domestic violence
- violence prevention

Covered Services

Health Education - may include coaching and goal-setting to improve a beneficiary's health or ability to self-manage health conditions.

Health Navigation - to provide information, training, referrals, or support to assist beneficiaries to:

- Access health care, understand the health care system, or engage in their own care

- Connect to community resources necessary to promote health; address barriers, including connecting to medical translation/interpretation or transportation services; or address health-related social needs

Covered Services

Screening & Assessment -

that does not require a license

Individual Support & Advocacy -

that assists a beneficiary to prevent the onset or exacerbation of a health condition

Billing codes

The following CPT codes may be used for all services listed above by the supervising provider when submitting claims:

CPT code	Description	Length	Number of Patients	Rate
98960	self-management education and training, face-to-face, 30 minutes	30 minutes	1	\$26.66
98961	self-management education and training, face-to-face, 30 minutes	30 minutes	2-4	\$12.66
98962	self-management education and training, face-to-face, 30 minutes	30 minutes	5-8	\$9.46

Currently

- State CHW/P/R certificate on hold – seeking input from workforce through June 2024
- The benefit as outlined in the CHW Provider Manual and the DHCS All Plan Letter of September 18, 2023 remains in place.

CHW/P/Rs seeking Medi-Cal reimbursement for their services must

Demonstrate minimum qualifications via 1) a certificate of completion or 2) work experience (2,000 hours);

Have lived experience that aligns with and provides a connection between the CHW and the community or population being served; and,

Be supervised by a licensed provider, clinic, hospital, CBO, or Local Health Jurisdiction who is enrolled in the Medi-Cal program.

What Can I Do?

- Ask your Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan(s) if and how they have educated their provider networks and members about the Community Health Worker benefit and how to use it.
- Request written information, webinar materials, etc. from your Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan(s) that they might have developed about the benefit to share with your networks.

Don't know your Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans? Go to <https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/individuals/Pages/MMCDHealthPlanDir.aspx> and look up your county.

BONUS! MCPs also required to:

- (1) Provide dental screenings for every eligible beneficiary as a part of the beneficiary's initial health assessment.
- (2) Ensure that an eligible beneficiary is referred to an appropriate Medi-Cal dental provider.
- (3) Identify plan liaisons available to dental managed care contractors and dental fee-for-service contractors to assist with referrals to health plan covered services.

Learn more about the CHW/P/R Benefit:

<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/community-health-workers>

Resources

- [State Plan Amendment \(SPA\) 22-0001](#)
- [All Plan Letter \(APL\) 22-016](#)
- [Medi-Cal Provider Manual for the community health worker](#)
- [Medi-Cal Provider Manual for asthma preventive services](#)
- [Medi-Cal Provider Bulletin: Community-Based Organizations and Local Health Jurisdictions Enrollment](#)
- [Community-Based Organizations and Local Health Jurisdictions Application Information](#)
- [Enrollment for Community-Based Organizations and Local Health Jurisdictions using PAVE](#)

Learn more about the CHW/P/R Training and Certification Requirements:

Get notifications about updates: CHW@hcai.ca.gov



Eileen Espejo, eespejo@childrennow.org

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