



What's New!

Release Date: February 24, 2023

QM Updates

Effective Now!	Coming Soon!	New/Updated Policies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For All Staff: Updates to ESA letter writing requirements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Timely Access Monthly Report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 23-01: Adult and Youth Screening and Transition of Care Tools

Timely Access Report **Resuming in May**

What: No Timely Access Report for March or April
Who: All staff.
Details: Due to preparation for the upcoming DHCS Triennial Audit, QM will not be able to provide programs the monthly Timely Access Report in March or April. However, programs should continue to start and complete the forms for new clients as best as they can without the report. Many programs have been doing an excellent job of starting forms before receiving the report from QM, so please continue to do so; but if you are not confident with knowing which clients to start the form for, you may wait until QM sends a new report in a couple of months.
Supervisors: Please refer to Timely Access email sent on 2/24/2023 by Eri Tsujii.

CalAIM Screening and Transition Tools **Available Now**

What: Screening and Transition Tools have been finalized by DHCS for CalAIM
Who: All Staff in Mental Health programs (this is not for DMC-ODS or SUD programs)
Details: DHCS [BHIN 22-065](#) has provided finalized information regarding the new Screening and Transition tools to be used to standardize client's access to mental health services. The Adult Screening Tool, the Youth Screening Tool, and the Transition Tool to be used for either Adults or Youth can be found [here](#).
 BHRS will be phasing the implementation of these new tools, beginning with a pilot of the screening tool with a few programs over the next few months. BHRS programs that have not been selected to pilot the tools should wait to implement until notified by QM.
 Contract agencies may implement this BHIN whenever they are ready to implement these tools, but no later than BHRS system wide implementation. The date of this systemwide implementation is yet to be determined, but QM will provide notice through this newsletter when that date will be set.

Update re: Emotional Support Animals **Effective as of: 01/01/2023**

What: An update to regulations around Emotional Support Animal letters.
Who: All licensed/registered staff.
Details: The BBS has notified licensees/registrants that the law regarding emotional support animal letters ([SB 774](#)) has been updated to exempt verified homeless/unhoused individuals from the 30-day client-provider established relationship requirement. **For more information about writing ESA letters, click [here](#).**