

California State Office of AIDS

**Report to San Francisco EMA HIV Health Services Planning Council
July 2015**

Ryan White Part B: AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP)

- Effective July 1, 2015, ADAP expanded access to hepatitis C virus (HCV) medications to include all HCV co-infected ADAP clients, regardless of liver disease stage. This policy is in alignment with the federal Health and Human Services guidelines for treating HCV co-infection among HIV-infected persons and the revised Department of Veteran Affairs' HCV clinical guidelines, which recommend that all HIV/HCV co-infected patients be treated. Transition to providing treatment for all co-infected ADAP clients is projected to occur in July 2015. Medi-Cal also expanded access to HCV medications to include all HIV/HCV co-infected beneficiaries, regardless of liver disease stage.

ADAP Management Memo 2015-12, dated July 1, 2015, was distributed to the Local ADAP Coordinators and ADAP Enrollment Workers to inform them of the expanded ADAP HCV treatment policy. The Management Memo is available on the Office of AIDS (OA) website at www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/aids/Pages/OAADAPMM.aspx.

- The ADAP Eligibility Modernization legislation, effective June 24, 2015, changed ADAP income eligibility criteria to a Modified Adjusted Gross Income level of 500 percent of federal poverty level, based on family size and household income. ADAP is working with their pharmacy benefits manager to modify the online client application system in order to implement the new eligibility criteria.
- The Enacted Budget also included authority to spend \$3 million in federal and rebate funds to support ADAP/OA-Health Insurance Premium Payment (OA-HIPP) Enrollment Workers at the local and state level. This includes \$2 million in funding for local enrollment work, which will be allocated to local health jurisdictions in this fiscal year based on ADAP and OA-HIPP enrollment, and \$1 million to support 8 positions at OA which will improve OA-HIPP application processing and support of local ADAP/OA-HIPP Enrollment Workers.
- ADAP Management Memo 2015-11, dated June 30, 2015, was distributed to the ADAP Enrollment Workers to provide them with the OA-HIPP Enrollment Worker Reference Tool. The purpose of this tool is to provide ADAP Enrollment Workers with guidance regarding OA-HIPP eligibility, enrollment, re-enrollment, and

recertification. The Management Memo is available on the OA website at www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/aids/Pages/OAADAPMM.aspx.

HIV Prevention

- The Enacted Budget included \$3 million in General Fund to establish a State Syringe Exchange Clearinghouse.
- The Enacted Budget also included \$2 million in General Fund for Pre-exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) navigation activities. The majority of the funds (\$1.76 million) will be awarded through a competitive Request for Applications (RFA) process to Local Health Jurisdictions and Community-Based Organizations throughout California to develop PrEP Navigation Services. The RFA is expected to be released in the fall, with a January 2016 start date. The rest will be used for two additional OA staff positions, one as a lead staff member for Statewide PrEP Implementation and one for evaluation of PrEP implementation and the navigator program. Some funding will also be used for additional PrEP educational and training materials.
- The OA has a PrEP Provider Directory on its website to assist individuals seeking PrEP. The directory is being continually updated and can be found at www.cdph.ca.gov/OAPrEP. Any clinic or provider that wants to be included in the PrEP Provider Directory can e-mail their contact information to PrEP@cdph.ca.gov.

Surveillance, Research, and Evaluation

In July 2015, the ARIES Team successfully deployed the Outreach Services Module in ARIES. The ARIES system now allows for the collection of Outreach Services data for both known and anonymous clients, and enhances reporting for the Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) and for Ryan White-funded agencies contracted to provide Outreach Services and/or Early Intervention Services (EIS). This new module will help providers document their efforts to get people into care, while improving OA's understanding of outreach activities and successes.

Information about the new module can be found in the June 2015 issue of *The ARIES Advisor* newsletter. Additionally, on July 2, 2015, the ARIES Team conducted an ARIES Outreach Services Module Training webinar for providers. The newsletter and a recording of the training webinar are available on the OA website at www.projectaries.org.

California Planning Group (CPG)

In April 2015, CPG member Francisco Cabas moved out-of-state leaving a vacant Community At-Large membership seat and Community Co-Chair seat. Both seats have been filled:

- Tony Viramontes, Director of Prevention Health and Transgender Services at the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Center Orange County, was appointed as a Community At-Large member. Tony was an original CPG applicant who agreed to be on a back-up list should there be a vacancy. OA consulted with the CPG Membership Committee and Community Co-Chairs prior to appointing Tony.
- Michael Weiss, Program Services Coordinator at Humboldt County Department of Health and Human Services, was elected as a Community Co-Chair. Michael will serve in this position along with the other Community Co-Chair, Jena Adams, until February 2016.

If you have additional questions, please contact: liz.hall@cdph.ca.gov.