

**California Department of Public Health, Office of AIDS  
Monthly Report  
November 2017**

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

- **Covered California Open Enrollment, Off-Exchange Plan Open Enrollment and Medicare Part D Open Enrollment**
  - On October 2, letters were sent to Medicare Part Premium Payment Program clients regarding the Medicare Part D open enrollment period, which is October 15, 2017, to December 7, 2017.
  
  - The Covered California open enrollment period is November 1, 2017, to January 31, 2018. ADAP staff and enrollment workers were provided with Management Memoranda regarding the Covered California open enrollment period, off-exchange plan open enrollment periods, and Office of AIDS Health Insurance Premium Payment (OA-HIPP) program requirements. The Management Memoranda contained information regarding changes for Covered California consumers and resources to help assist clients in choosing a health insurance plan. California Department of Public Health (CDPH), Office of AIDS (OA) will mail letters regarding the Covered California open enrollment period to existing clients that are enrolled in Covered California and ADAP clients that do not have health coverage. Letters will be mailed in both English and Spanish.
  
- **Access, Adherence, and Navigation Program**

OA is holding-regular status meetings with enrollment sites selected to participate in the Access, Adherence, and Navigation Program to answer questions and provide program updates such as contracting and training updates.
  
- **ADAP Enrollment System (AES)**

The AES is being developed in stages, with releases of features and improvements every four weeks to support eligibility management, system navigation, data exchange, reporting, quality assurance, and data security. ADAP continues to coordinate each release with training and outreach to ensure enrollment workers and other users are aware of changes and can correctly use any new features.

On October 10, OA sent enrollment workers an email regarding the new functionality available in the AES effective Wednesday, October 11. Attached to

the email was the “Navigating the AES for ADAP EWs; Release 8.1, October 11” job aid. The following functionality was added:

- Ability to capture the client’s preferred language on the Demographics Tab. The client’s preferred language can be found on the Demographics Tab and Client Profile Page of the AES.

## **HIV Prevention**

- OA released a new Issue Brief on **Syringe Access Policies for California Syringe Exchange Programs** this month. The document supplements and clarifies CDPH’s *Guidelines for Syringe Exchange Programs Funded by the California Department of Public Health*, which describe the minimum operating requirements for Syringe Exchange Programs (SEPs) receiving support through the Supplies Clearinghouse. The Issue Brief advises syringe exchange programs to adopt needs-based distribution policies with the goal of ensuring that program participants have a new, sterile syringe and other injection equipment for each injection; and that restrictive syringe access policies such as variations on one-for-one exchange or the imposition of limits on the number of syringes participants may acquire per transaction are not supported by public health evidence and may impose harm upon SEP participants. For more information on the issue brief or to receive technical assistance in implementing these recommendations, please contact Matt Curtis, [matt.curtis@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:matt.curtis@cdph.ca.gov).
  - The Issue Brief is available on the OA website at [www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DOA/CDPH%20Document%20Library/CDPH%20SEP%20Distribution%20Policy%20Issue%20Brief%20\(Approved%20w%20Logos\).pdf](http://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DOA/CDPH%20Document%20Library/CDPH%20SEP%20Distribution%20Policy%20Issue%20Brief%20(Approved%20w%20Logos).pdf).
  - The Guidelines for SEPs is available on the OA website at [www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DOA/CDPH%20Document%20Library/GuidanceforSEPs2017\\_ADA2.pdf](http://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DOA/CDPH%20Document%20Library/GuidanceforSEPs2017_ADA2.pdf)
- With funding support from OA, the Harm Reduction Coalition will convene a harm reduction listening session in Eureka, CA, on November 6-7. The first in a series of regional events around the state, the listening session series draws together service providers, local and county health officials, and others to discuss successes and needs in supporting the health and safety of people who use drugs. To register for the Eureka event or learn about upcoming listening sessions, please contact Taeko Frost, [frost@harmreduction.org](mailto:frost@harmreduction.org).

## **Surveillance, Research, and Evaluation**

- OA has released the California HIV Surveillance Report – 2015, which includes data on persons newly diagnosed with HIV infection, persons living with

diagnosed HIV infection, and deaths among persons with diagnosed HIV infection. The report covers years 2011 - 2015, and is available on the OA website. Link to all California Surveillance Reports:

[www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DOA/Pages/OA\\_case\\_surveillance\\_reports.asp](http://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DOA/Pages/OA_case_surveillance_reports.asp)

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### **California Planning Group**

An in-person CPG meeting was held in Anaheim on October 17-19, 2017. Updates were provided by CPG members, Subject Matter Experts, and OA staff from the HIV Care, ADAP, Prevention, and Surveillance, Research and Evaluation Branches. AltaMed Health Services Corporation, Tarzana Treatment Centers, California Prevention Training Center presented on the HIV work they are doing. CPG members participated in a group exercise to provide discussion and feedback on goals and activities related to the Integrated Plan. Following adjournment of the meeting, a meeting was held for CPG members nominated to CPG by their local planning body (Nominated Members) to allow for them to discuss their local planning bodies and share challenges, best practices, and resources. It was requested that each CPG meeting allow for this networking opportunity for Nominated Members.

Presentation slides and meeting notes from the meeting are available by request. Requests can be made by sending an email to [cpg@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:cpg@cdph.ca.gov).

For questions regarding this report, please contact: [michael.foster@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:michael.foster@cdph.ca.gov).