Behavioral Health Focused Investigations

The DMHC received approval in the 2020-21 state budget to conduct focused investigations of all full service commercial health plans regulated by the Department to further evaluate health plan compliance with parity and assess whether enrollees have consistent access to medically necessary behavioral health care services.

A goal of the investigations is to identify and understand the challenges and barriers enrollees may still face in obtaining behavioral health care services, and to identify systemic changes that can be made to improve the delivery of care.

The DMHC anticipates an average of five (5) investigations will be conducted per year and all full service commercial health plans will be investigated over approximately five (5) years.

The investigations of the following five health plans, commenced in 2021:

- Cigna HealthCare of California, Inc.
- Community Care Health Plan, Inc.
- Contra Costa County Medical Services
- Sutter Health Plan
- Ventura County Health

The DMHC has identified the next five health plans to be investigated, commencing in 2022:

- Alameda Alliance For Health
- Blue Cross of California (Anthem Blue Cross)
- Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc. (Kaiser Permanente)
- Sharp Health Plan
- Western Health Advantage

Remaining full service commercial health plans to be investigated:

- Aetna Health of California, Inc.
- California Physicians' Service (Blue Shield of California)
- Chinese Community Health Plan
- Health Net of California, Inc.
- L.A. Care Health Plan Joint Powers Authority
- Local Initiative Health Authority For Los Angeles County (L.A. Care Health Plan)
- Medi-Excel, SA de CV (MediExcel Health Plan)
- MemorialCare Select Health Plan
- Molina Healthcare of California
- Oscar Health Plan of California
- San Francisco Health Authority (San Francisco Health Plan)
- San Mateo Health Commission (Health Plan of San Mateo)
- Santa Clara County (Valley Health Plan)
- Santa Cruz-Monterey-Merced Managed Medical Care Commission (Central California Alliance for Health)
- Scripps Health Plan Services, Inc.
- Sistemas Medicos Nacionales, S.A.de C.V. (SIMNSA Health Plan)
- UHC of California (UnitedHealthcare of California)
- UnitedHealthcare Benefits Plan of California