

Network Provider Update

To: Medi-Cal and Cal MediConnect* network participants

February 2022

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Subject: **All Plan Letter 21-009, Collecting Social Determinants of Health Data**

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) recently issued All Plan Letter (APL) 21-009, "Collecting Social Determinants of Health Data." We are sharing a summary of this APL with you to ensure you are aware of the information, and you can apply the information to your practice or facility operations, where appropriate.

APL 21-009 provides guidelines for managed care plans (MCPs) such as Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plan to follow when gathering Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) data about the members they serve. The APL designates codes from the International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM) list to be prioritized in the collection of SDOH data and encourages MCPs, their network providers, and their subcontractors to use them to help DHCS gather consistent information needed to support population health management.

Code	Description
Z55.0	Illiteracy and low-level literacy
Z58.6	Inadequate drinking water supply
Z59.00	Homelessness unspecified
Z59.01	Sheltered homelessness
Z59.02	Unsheltered homelessness
Z59.1	Inadequate housing (lack of heating/space, unsatisfactory surroundings)
Z59.3	Problems related to living in residential institution
Z59.41	Food insecurity
Z59.48	Other specified lack of adequate food
Z59.7	Insufficient social insurance and welfare support
Z59.811	Housing instability, housed, with risk of homelessness
Z59.812	Housing instability, housed, homelessness in past 12 months
Z59.819	Housing instability, housed unspecified
Z59.89	Other problems related to housing and economic circumstances
Z60.2	Problems related to living alone
Z60.4	Social exclusion and rejection (physical appearance, illness or behavior)
Z62.819	Personal history of unspecified abuse in childhood
Z63.0	Problems in relationship with spouse or partner
Z63.4	Disappearance & death of family member (assumed death, bereavement)
Z63.5	Disruption of family by separation and divorce (marital estrangement)
Z63.6	Dependent relative needing care at home

Z63.72	Alcoholism and drug addiction in family
Z65.1	Imprisonment and other incarceration
Z65.2	Problems related to release from prison
Z65.8	Other specified problems related to psychosocial circumstances (religious or spiritual problem)

This summary is only meant as a brief description of the APL. Please see the APL itself for additional background and the complete requirements. The full text of APL 21-009 may be found at this URL: <https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/Documents/MMCDAPLsandPolicyLetters/APL2021/APL21-009.pdf> (Links to the DHCS.ca.gov website will take you off of the Blue Shield Promise website.)

More information about how Blue Shield Promise will be implementing this APL will be forthcoming over the next several months. Training on the collection of Social Determinants of Health codes will be provided in early 2022.

Please direct questions about serving Blue Shield Promise members to our Provider Services Department at **(800) 468-9935** from 6 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

*Cal MediConnect network participants are responsible for identifying and applying the guidance and requirements that pertain to their patients.