

# Problem List

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Fresno County  
Department of Behavioral Health

# Problem List!

## What is that!?

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A list of

- symptoms,
- conditions,
- diagnoses,
- and/or risk factors

Identified through assessment, psychiatric evaluation, crisis encounter, or other types of service encounters with service providers.



# Why a Problem List?

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- As part of the California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) initiative, the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) aims to reform behavioral health and substance use disorder documentation requirements to improve the person served experience.
- Problem List will help to facilitate continuity of care through accessibility to an all-inclusive list of problems that will easily identify the individuals care needs, including current diagnoses, and along with key health and social determinants of health and wellness.



WHY?

# So, no more treatment plans??

- The Problem List will mostly replace the treatment plan, except for some EPSDT services i.e. TBS, ICC, IHBS, STRTP, etc. that will still require a treatment plan, per Federal mandates.
- All current AOD programs are still required to complete treatment plans in addition to the Problem List.
  - Exception: NTP/OTP services are exempt from Problem List requirements; however, treatment plans are still required.



When do I have to  
start doing a  
problem List?

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- September 19, 2022





# What about our ongoing persons served?

- Review current problems with persons served/family members
- Update Problem List based on review
- Review shall occur at next service or as clinically appropriate



# Who completes the Problem List?

- Providers responsible for the individual's care create and maintain the Problem List.
- This includes clinician-identified diagnoses, identified concerns by individual/support person, and issues identified by other service providers including those by non-LPHA staff.



# What is **required** on the Problem List?

- a. Diagnoses and corresponding codes, identified by provider practicing within their scope and competence.
  - i. Including Z-codes/diagnostic specifiers from DSM-5, if applicable.
- b. Problems identified by provider, practicing within their scope and competence if any.
- c. Problems or illnesses, identified by individual or significant support person, if any.
- d. Name, title of provider that identified, added, or resolved the problem **along** with the date the problem was identified, added, or resolved.





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# How often do I have to update the Problem List?

- There are no specific time frames or requirements as to when the Problem List should be updated.
- Providers shall identify/add/resolve problems from Problem List, when there are relevant changes for person served, and within a reasonable time frame.



# Questions?

Please reach out to [DBHCompliance@fresnocountyca.gov](mailto:DBHCompliance@fresnocountyca.gov)