

# Monterey County Behavioral Health, Quality Improvement

RE:	Universal Psychosocial Assessment Updates and SUD Level of Care
FORM REFERENCE	Universal Psychosocial Assessment SUD Assessment
EFFECTIVE	11/04/2019

As part of our ongoing quality improvement efforts, QI made modifications to the Universal Psychosocial Assessment and the SUD Assessment. These changes track differences in *recommended level of care* and *accepted level of care* for **substance use disorder services only**. Currently, Mental Health providers have the option to utilize an integrated **Universal Psychosocial Assessment** and SUD Providers use the **SUD Assessment** for consumers presenting with substance use disorder concerns. Effective November 4, 2019, additional fields will be required in both assessments to include “Level of Care Accepted by the Client,” “Level of Care Difference Reason” and “Why is Accepted Level of care less than Assessed Level of Care?”

## PROCEDURES

- Effective November 4, 2019
- Staff completing assessments will differentiate between Level of Need Score, Level of Care Accepted by Client and if difference, select the difference reason.
- Select level of needs score. This is the “assessed level of care” the staff believes the client will benefit from based on medical necessity.
- Select Level of Care Accepted by Client. This is the level of care the client is willing to accept. The accepted level of care cannot exceed the assessed level of care based on medical necessity.
- Select the Level of Care Difference Reason. Staff will only be required to complete this field if there is a difference in assessed level of care and accepted level of care. These reasons are defined by Department of Health Care Services and include:
  - Clinical Judgement
  - Family Responsibility
  - Geographical Accessibility
  - Lack of Insurance/ Payment Source
  - Language
  - Legal Issues
  - Level of Care Not Available

- Managed Care Refusal
- Patient Preference
- Used 2 residential Stays in a Year already
- Lastly, staff will be required to complete “Why is Accepted Level of care less than Assessed Level of Care?” if assessed level and accepted level are different. This is staff opportunity to expand on Level of Care Difference Reason so we can provide accurate justification in our state reporting.