

## PROVIDER MEMO

**Date:** May 16, 2023

**Subject:** New Mental Health Screening Tool for Your VHP Medi-Cal Patients!

Dear Provider:

A new mental health screening tool for your VHP Medi-Cal patients was released by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) effective January 1, 2023. The screening tool can be used by non-clinical and clinical staff and helps identify whether a patient has mild-moderate or severe mental health needs. Separate adult and youth screenings are available.

Your VHP Medi-Cal patients can be directed to the Santa Clara County (SCC) Behavioral Health Call Center by calling 1-800-704-0900 for the screening.

VHP Medi-Cal patients determined to have mild-moderate mental health needs may contact Valley Health Plan Case Management at 1-669-220-5235 for referrals, and patients assessed to have severe mental health needs will be treated within SCC County's Behavioral Health System. VHP Medi-Cal members with substance use disorders (SUD) regardless of severity can also access SCC services at 1-800-704-0900.

The DHCS mental health screening tool is not a full clinical assessment. Upon further clinical assessment, a patient may need to transition from mild-moderate to severe mental health services. In this instance, clinicians must complete and forward the Transition of Care Tool to the SCC Behavioral Health Call Center to transition patients to SCC severe mental health services.

Our case management team is available to help with coordination of care for all VHP Medi-Cal patients. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact VHP case management at 1-669-220-3525.

For more information about the DHCS Mental Health Initiative click here:

[DHCS APL 22-028 Adult and Youth Screening and Transition of Care Tools for Medi-Cal Mental Health Services\(ca.gov\)](#)

[Adult Screening Tool for Medi-Cal Mental Health Services](#)

[Youth Screening Tool for Medi-Cal Mental Health Services](#)

[Transition of Care Tool for Medi-Cal Mental Health Services](#)

Thank you for your attention to this matter.