

Monterey County Behavioral Health Quality Improvement CalAIM Implementation Memo: 006

Re:	Unbundling of Service Duration Time for Drug MediCal Organized Delivery System
Form	SUD Progress Note
Reference	SUD Group Progress Notes
	DHCS Drug Medi-Cal Billing Manual (September 2022)
Effective	November 7 th , 2022

Topic

In the spirit of California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM), and to prepare for changes related to payment reform, Monterey County Behavioral Health (MCBH) is unbundling total service duration in all behavioral health progress notes for MyAVATAR users to denote actual service duration, travel time¹ and documentation time separately. This change will allow MCBH and substance use disorder providers to review and make informed decisions related to actual service delivery versus documentation time and travel time as part of a service.

Procedure

Previous requirements:

- 1. **One (1)** field for total Service duration included actual service time + documentation time + travel time to and from service¹.
- 2. Total Service duration was claimable to MediCal.

MediCal Requirements as of November 7th, 2022

- 1. **Three (3)** separate fields: service duration, documentation time, and travel time to service will be required.
 - a. If there was no travel time, enter "0" as the duration value.
- 2. Total service duration includes time spent providing the service + documentation time + travel time to service¹.
 - a. Travel time is used for community-based services where the counselor drives from the clinic setting to the location where the service is provided. This includes return travel to the clinic. In order to bill for transportation, the counselor must document the date and start and end time for each portion (to and from) of travel time and should be noted in the narrative section of the progress note.
 - b. Documentation time is specific to the time it takes for the counselor to write a progress note for an individual counseling session, or each beneficiary that participated in a group counseling session. If there is more than one counselor providing the group

¹ Travel time = only account for travel time when it is a component of the reimbursable service activity. Please see QI Memo: Clarification of Travel Time in Progress Notes for more information at www.mtyhd.org/qi.

counseling, each practitioner must complete a separate progress note for each beneficiary. Documentation time should also include the date, start and end time for each progress note and should be noted in the narrative section of the progress note.

- i. Providers shall do their best to accurately enter time spent on documentation.
- 3. Total Service duration is still claimable to MediCal.
- 4. These requirements apply to outpatient services <u>ONLY</u>, with the exception listed in #5 below.
 - a. Documentation time is <u>NOT</u> billable for NTP individual and group counseling.
- 5. Care Coordination services (previously known as Case Management) have the same requirements as mentioned above and may be billed for <u>ANY</u> level of care.

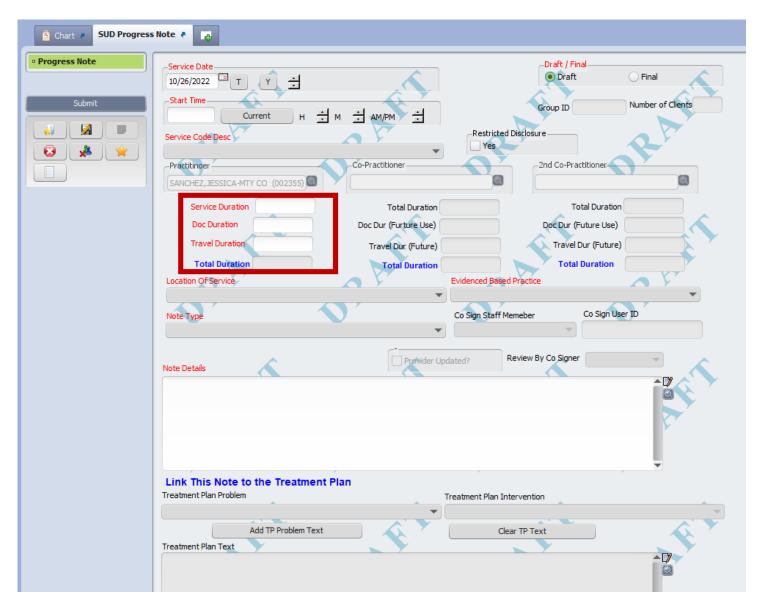
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Note Types Impacted:

Substance Use Disorder Forms	
SUD Progress Note	
SUD Group Progress Notes	

SUD Progress Note

- 1. Total Duration field will be disabled.
- 2. Service Duration, Doc Duration, and Travel Duration have been added and are made required. The time entered in these 3 fields will automatically be summarized under "Total Duration".
- 3. Finalize the SUD Progress Notes and submit.

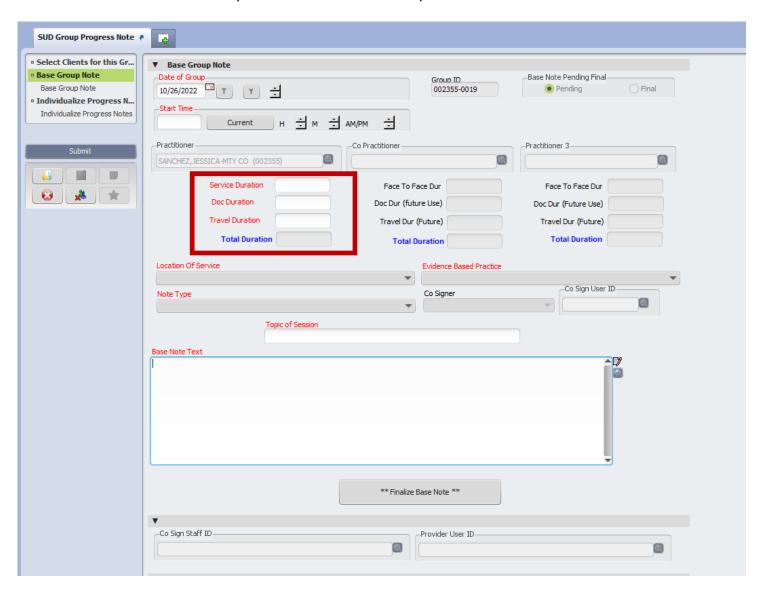


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SUD Group Progress Note

Base Group Note Tab

- 1. Total Duration field will be disabled.
- 2. Service Duration, Doc Duration, and Travel Duration have been added and are made required. The time entered in these 3 fields will automatically be summarized under "Total Duration".
- 3. Finalize the Base Group Notes and continue the process as usual.



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General Examples:

• Provider met with a client for 64 minutes for individual therapy and spent 7 minutes documenting the service.

Service duration: 64 minutes
Travel duration: 0 minutes
Doc duration: 7 minutes
Total duration = 71 minutes

Provider attempted to contact person in care over the phone. The phone call took 3 minutes.
The provider left a voicemail and documented outreach and documentation was 2 minutes.

Service duration: 3 minutes
Travel duration: 0 minutes
Doc duration: 2 minutes
Total duration = 5 minutes

 LPHA travel 15 minutes from the clinic to the person in care's home and back (round trip was 30 minutes). LPHA provided 78 minutes of family therapy and spent 22 minutes documenting the service.

Service duration: 78 minutes
Travel duration: 30 minutes
Doc duration: 22 minutes
Total duration = 130 minutes

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