HEALTH SYSTEMS DIVISION
Kate Brown, Governor

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Date: October 4, 2022

To: Behavioral Health Residential Providers
Behavioral Health Adult Foster Homes
Behavioral Health Personal Care Attendants

From: Donald Jardine, Transformation Programs manager
Medicaid Programs

Subject: Face-to-face and in-person assessments for individuals who receive 1915(i) and Behavioral Health Personal Care Attendant (BH PCA) services begin October 15, 2022

Effective October 15, 2022, the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) will not accept 1915(i) or BH PCA assessments conducted only by telephone as valid documentation to support medical appropriateness, program eligibility, or authorization of services or payment (Oregon Administrative Rule 410-120-1320).

This means starting October 15, Comagine Health, OHA's current Independent and Qualified Agent (IQA), will no longer perform assessments for 1915(i) or BH PCA program services over the telephone. Instead, Comagine Health must complete all assessments in person or via videoconference.

- **For videoconference requirements,** refer to Oregon Administrative Rules (OARs) 410-172-0850 and 410-120-1990.
- **For 1915(i) requirements,** refer to OAR 410-173-0020.
- **For BH PCA requirements,** refer to OAR 410-172-0830(2). OHA will extend use of videoconferencing for BH PCA assessments until the end of the COVID Public Health Emergency (PHE).

Why is this happening?

This change is part of OHA's transition away from COVID-19-related flexibilities associated with 1915(i) and BH PCA programs to prepare for the end of the COVID-19 PHE.

What should you do?

If your consumers require an assessment of their 1915(i) or BH PCA service eligibility on or after October 15, please let them know that their assessment will be through videoconferencing or in person.

We regret any inconvenience this may cause and appreciate your patience as we prepare for the end of the COVID-19 PHE.

Questions?

If you have any questions about this announcement, please contact FFS.BH@odhsoha.oregon.gov for 1915(i) related questions or PC.20@odhsoha.oregon.gov for BH PCA related questions.

Thank you for your continued support of the Oregon Health Plan and the services you provide to our members.