

SUD Medical Directors COVID-19 WebEx
Thursday, June 25, 2020 | 1-2pm
Executive Summary

Dr. Nicole Esposito, County Behavioral Health Services Department (BHS) Assistant Clinical Director, convenes DMC-ODS Medical Directors (MDs) on a bi-weekly basis via WebEx to provide updates regarding the County's COVID-19 response efforts as well as to dialog on issues faced by MDs during the COVID-19 emergency. The group reconvened on Thursday, June 25th at 1pm.

County BHS shared the latest available BHS dashboard during COVID-19 (copy attached separately).

County Public Health Services Medical Consultant Dr. Sayone Thihalolipavan was able to join the meeting and he gave an update on local COVID-19 statistics via the [County of San Diego's ArcGIS COVID-19 Dashboard](#) and answered questions from the MDs. Topics of discussion included the following: 1) COVID-19 incubation/isolation periods (11-12 days); 2) coordination of COVID testing prior to or at admission – which is recommended for entry/re-entry to congregate facilities; 3) timeline for testing traced contacts after a known positive; 4) the County's [COVID-19 Metrics for Modifying Health Officer Order Dashboard](#) with 13 highlighted data points currently being monitored by the County to trigger modifications in the local public health orders, i.e., services/activities that need to be paused or scaled back to contain an influx of new COVID-19 cases; and 5) in-person/face to face treatment vs telehealth based on individual need of each client.

Dr. Sayone shared that CalFire is now offering testing and that the State recently announced that in-person group support can resume with necessary precautions in place to avoid transmission. While virtual options are strongly preferred, in-person therapeutic and peer support groups are allowable. Providers are encouraged to prioritize staff and facility resources for clinically activities over large group activities if resources to do both are limited.

Additional Resources:

Resource sharing: CDPH communication on [Responding to COVID-19 in the Workplace](#)