

# PROVIDER Bulletin



KERN HEALTH  
SYSTEMS

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April 2, 2025

## **Reminder: Psychiatric Diagnostic Interviews (Evaluations)**

Dear Provider,

As a reminder, Psychiatric Diagnostic Interviews (evaluations) is covered under non-specialty mental health services with Kern Health Systems (KHS) and can be provided by our in-network providers.

There is no age limitation for the assessment or treatment under Medi-Cal for non-specialty mental health services for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). It was brought to our attention that behavioral health providers are requesting for members to be scheduled with a psychologist or other contracted providers to conduct this service.

The KHS Behavioral Health Department would like to clarify that a psychiatric diagnostic interview to evaluate for ADHD and ongoing treatment:

- Does not fall under Behavioral Health Treatment (BHT), and does fall under non-specialty mental health services,
- Does not require specialty mental health service level treatment to prescribe medications if the member is assessed as appropriate for non-specialty mental health services,
- Does not require prior authorization,
- Does not require a psychologist to make the diagnosis, and
- Is not restricted to eligible beneficiaries under 21 years of age, but all members of any age.

[Provider Bulletins](#) are available on the [KHS website](#). Please visit the site regularly to stay informed about the latest updates and announcements.

If you have any additional questions, please contact your Provider Relations Representative at 1-800-391-2000, silent prompt option #5.

Sincerely,

Melinda Santiago  
Director, Behavioral Health  
Kern Health Systems