

## Behavioral Health Focused Investigations

The DMHC received approval in the 2020-21 state budget to conduct focused Behavioral Health Investigations (BHI) of all full service commercial health plans regulated by the Department to further evaluate health plan compliance with California laws and assess whether enrollees have consistent access to medically necessary behavioral health care services. Any parity issues discovered or suspected during the BHI process will be referred internally for further investigation.

A goal of the investigations is to identify and understand the challenges and barriers enrollees may still face in obtaining behavioral health care services, and to identify systemic changes that can be made to improve the delivery of care.

The DMHC anticipates an average of five (5) health plans will be investigated during each phase of the behavioral health focused investigations.

The first phase of the investigations commenced in 2021 for the following five health plans:

- Cigna HealthCare of California, Inc.
- Community Care Health Plan, Inc.
- Contra Costa County Medical Services
- Sutter Health Plan
- Ventura County Health

The second phase of the investigations commenced in 2022 for the following five health plans:

- Alameda Alliance for Health
- Blue Cross of California (Anthem Blue Cross)
- Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc. (Kaiser Permanente)
- Sharp Health Plan
- Western Health Advantage

The DMHC has identified the next five health plans to be investigated in the third phase, commencing in 2024:

- Chinese Community Health Plan
- Molina Healthcare of California
- UHC of California (UnitedHealthcare of California)
- San Francisco Health Authority (San Francisco Health Plan)
- Aetna Health of California, Inc.

Remaining full service commercial health plans to be investigated:

- California Physicians' Service (Blue Shield of California)
- Health Net of California, Inc.
- L.A. Care Health Plan Joint Powers Authority (QIF)
- Local Health Initiative of California
- Medi-Excel, SA de CV (MediExcel Health Plan)
- MemorialCare Select Health Plan
- Oscar Health Plan of California
- San Mateo Health Commission (Health Plan of San Mateo)
- Santa Clara County (Valley Health Plan)
- Santa Cruz-Monterey-Merced Managed Medical Care Commission (Central California Alliance for Health)
- Scripps Health Plan Services, Inc.
- Sistemas Medicos Nacionales, S.A.de C.V. (SIMNSA Health Plan)
- UnitedHealthcare Benefits Plan of California