

Memo

Date: 11/12/2024

To: Behavioral health home (BHH) services providers

From: BHH services policy team

RE: Updates to BHH services State Plan Amendment (SPA)

The Department of Human Services (DHS) received approval on September 6, 2024 from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) for a change in the Behavioral Health Home benefit. The change approved was the replacement of the 'Partner Portal' with a population health management tool approved by the Department, to identify past and current treatment or services and identify potential gaps in care. You may review the approved pages here for [MN-24-0025](#).

Partner Portal

CMS approved the removal of a reference to a tool known as the DHS Partner Portal that did not work as intended. In its place, providers will use a population health management tool, approved by the Minnesota Department of Human Services, to identify past and current treatment or services and identify potential gaps in care.

Updated SPA language (2024)	Original SPA language
Monitor and analyze data in their patient registry and in a population health management tool, approved by the Minnesota Department of Human Services, to identify past and current treatment or services and identify potential gaps in care.	Monitor and analyze data in their patient registry and in the Minnesota Department of Human Services Partner Portal for purposes of population health management. The partner portal is a secure, web-based reporting tool which enables access to information that providers can use to

Approval process for new population health management tool

BHH providers may choose to continue using the partner portal in combination with the patient registry. If a BHH provider chooses to end their use of the partner portal, the authorized representative must contact the DHS BHH services policy team with a request for approval to use alternate tool.

- BHH providers choosing to continue using the Partner Portal do not need to contact DHS for approval nor notification.
- BHH providers choosing not to use the Partner Portal will need to submit the following to DHS for review:

- Name of the alternate population health management (PHM) tool you want to use.
- Succinct explanation of how the tool will support the SPA requirement “to identify past and current treatment or services and identify potential gaps in care.”
- Send any questions or PHM tool requests to behavioral.health.home.services@state.mn.us

Next steps

BHH services policy staff will update BHH services documentation where applicable regarding the Partner Portal requirement change. Additional information will be provided in a separate communication regarding a second change regarding the addition of the Medicare economic index (MEI) for annual rate changes starting in 2025. DHS is working internally to develop a process to apply the MEI based on CMS data and BHH policy staff will send further updates as they become available.