

**San Bernardino County
Department of Behavioral Health**

**Controlled Substance Utilization Review and Evaluation
System (CURES) Procedure**

Effective Date 06/01/2017
Approval Date 06/01/2017



Veronica Kelley, Director

Purpose To inform Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) Physicians of their obligation to comply with California Health and Safety Code, Sections 11165.1 and 11165.4 (Senate Bill 482).

Verifying CURES Registration DBH shall verify CURES registration during the pre-employment process as follows:

Responsible Party	Required Action
DBH Physician Applicants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit to the Medical Services Secretary a printout from the CURES database confirming registration
Medical Services Secretary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Record receipt of CURES printout on the Medical Services Hiring Checklist • Retain CURES printout in employee's Medical Services Employment File • Provide a copy of CURES printout to DBH Payroll (if employee also has a Departmental Personnel File)
DBH Payroll Clerk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain a copy of CURES printout in DBH Physician's Departmental Personnel File (if applicable)

Conducting CURES Consultations DBH Physicians shall consult the CURES database to review a patient's controlled substance history as follows:

- Before prescribing a Schedule II-IV controlled substance to the patient for the first time, and
- At least once every four (4) months thereafter if the substance remains part of the patient's treatment.

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**Documenting
Consultations**

DBH Physicians shall document the following on the [MDS008 Medication Visit Interdisciplinary Note](#):

- CURES reviewed date, or
- CURES not applicable for this visit

Note: Medication Visit Interdisciplinary Note shall be maintained in patient's medical record.

**Reviewing
CURES
Consultations**

Physician Peer Reviews will be conducted on a semi-annual basis during which:

- DBH Physicians will conduct a random sampling of each other's charts
 - Document on the Quality Assurance Physician Peer Review form whether the required CURES consultations were conducted, or
 - That CURES consultation was not applicable
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Reference

California Health and Safety Code, Sections 11165 et al.
[Senate Bill 482- Controlled Substances: CURES Database](#)

**Related Policy
or Procedure**

DBH Standard Practice Manual:
[MDS2010- Controlled Substance Utilization Review and Evaluation System \(CURES\) Policy](#)
