



OC In+Care

Newsletter for providers serving people living with HIV in Orange County

In this issue of the In+Care newsletter, we are going to discuss changes to the Ryan White Case Management and Nutrition Services Programs.

What is Ryan White Case Management?

Ryan White Case Management is case management services funded by the Ryan White Part A Program. Ryan White Part A-funded case managers include 17th Street Testing, Treatment and Care, AIDS Services Foundation, Delhi Center, REACH, Shanti Orange County and APAIT (beginning in March 2016).

Ryan White case management services are available to any eligible individual living with HIV in Orange County who needs assistance with linkage to and engagement in HIV medical care.

What are the changes to the Case Management?

Beginning in March 2016, the Ryan White case management system will include several “tiers” of case management designed to more effectively link individuals to medical care, support retention in care, and ultimately lead to viral load suppression.

The new tiers include the following levels of case management:

- **Linkage to Care:** Responsible for helping individuals who are newly diagnosed or have not been in medical care access public and private medical care services.
- **Medical Retention Services:** Responsible for helping clients address HIV-related medical issues to stay engaged in care.
- **Client Support Services:** Responsible for helping clients who are HIV medically stable to access

support services like housing, food services, legal services, etc.

- **Self-Advocacy:** Staff available to provide information and referrals to clients who no longer require intensive case management services.
- **Benefits Counseling:** Staff provides specific assistance applying for benefits (i.e., Social Security, State Disability, Medicare, etc.).

Why are these changes important?

The goal of Ryan White case management is linkage and retention in care. If individuals are successfully linked and engaged in HIV care, they do not require ongoing medical retention services. Prior to 2016, individuals in case management were retained in case management for long periods of time. This change will focus on transitioning clients off of Ryan White case management to allow case managers more time with individuals who are newly diagnosed, re-engaging back into care, or have significant barriers to care.

How will these changes impact the service I provide?

There may be no changes to the services you provide. However, clients served by your agency may be impacted and have questions about this change. A client Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) document is available at:

English:

<http://ohealthinfo.com/civica/filebank/blobdload.aspx?BlobID=48208>

Spanish:

<http://ohealthinfo.com/civica/filebank/blobdload.aspx?BlobID=48207>

What are Ryan White Nutrition Services?

Ryan White nutrition services include food bank, home delivered meals, and nutritional supplements for eligible individuals living with HIV.

What are the changes to the Ryan White Nutrition Services Program?

Beginning March 2016, nutrition services will be categorized as both Ryan White core and support services. Nutrition services under the “core service category” include any activities conducted by a Registered Dietitian (RD) and the resultant referrals for food services. Referrals to food bank, home delivered meals, or nutritional supplements that are made by a non-RD staff will be considered support services. The table below provides an overview of nutrition services under core service versus support service.

What will the Registered Dietitian do?

The RD will conduct an assessment of the client’s nutritional status and needs. The RD will also make referrals for food services as needed.

Why is this change important?

RD’s are being funded to professionally address nutritional issues, especially as persons living with HIV disease are living longer and dealing with several co-morbidities. RD’s are able to provide a specific plan to focus on the nutritional needs of the client rather than addressing food insecurity.

How will these changes impact the service I provide?

If your client is new to HIV care and/or needs professional nutrition services from an RD, a referral to the RD can be made by the client’s medical provider.

However, if a client is in regular HIV care and does not need a nutritional plan to help them stay healthy; nothing changes for the service you provide and clients may be able to receive nutrition services without an RD’s referral.

For more information on Ryan White Services, please visit:

<http://ochealthinfo.com/phs/about/dcepi/hiv>

Ryan White Nutrition Services Overview		
Service Qualifications	Core Medical Service	Support Service
Disability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is no disability requirement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must have a disability For Home-Delivered Meals must be homebound and unable to prepare meals
Income	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is no proposed income restriction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must be under 150% of Federal Poverty Level
Case Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is no case management requirement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For Home-Delivered Meals an individual must be nurse case managed
Registered Dietitian	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must have a registered dietitian evaluate needs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A registered dietitian may recommend nutritional supplements, but it is not required
Nutrition Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must have a nutrition plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A nutrition plan is not required
Frequency of Re-evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is no specific frequency, re-evaluation would be based on nutrition plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For Food Bank there is no re-evaluation required unless the individual has a temporary disability For Home-Delivered Meals and Nutritional Supplements, re-evaluations must be done quarterly

ORANGE COUNTY HIV QUALITY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



In+Care OC is a project of the Orange County HIV Quality Management Committee. The HIV Quality Management Committee works to increase the quality of Ryan White services. For more information about the committee, please call (714) 834-8063. If you have feedback or suggestions for future newsletters, please contact Mindy He at MHe@ochca.com.

