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Behavioral & Psychological Services
A Stepping Stones Group Company

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TO: Autism & Community Practice
FROM: Risk Management
DATE: 1/11/22
RE: UPDATE - COVID-19 Requirements from CA Department of Public Health Order

Additional information has come out from the California Department of Public Health regarding COVID-19 booster and testing requirements for our employees. As a point of clarification, we have outlined the updated requirements and new deadlines for our "health worker" employees. Please contact your manager if you are unclear about whether this requirement applies to you.

1. **"Health Workers"** – *employees who provide (e.g., Behavior Technicians, Mental Health Associates, Clinical Supervisors, etc.) or support (e.g., Office Managers, Assistants, Service Coordinators, Billing Team, etc.) implementation of behavioral health services to clients in-home, clinic, or other community settings funded by insurance companies, regional centers, or private pay.*
   a. **There is a deadline of 2/1/22 requiring all employees in this category to show documentation that you have been boostered against Covid-19, or be approved for an exemption and submit to weekly testing.**
   b. **If unable to get a vaccination/booster due to religious beliefs or a medical condition, we encourage employees to pursue an exemption following the process established for this purpose in our prior guidance.**
   c. **Employees can submit proof of booster or request an exemption at https://info.thesteppingstonesgroup.com/starofca-covid19-staffupdates**

   Reference: https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/FAQ-Health-Care-Worker-Vaccine-Requirement.aspx

2. For those who test positive for COVID-19, CA Public Health specifies testing requirements to end isolation between days 5-10 after testing positive. Otherwise, isolation can end without testing if symptoms are not present or have improved, and 10 days have passed.

   Reference: https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Guidance-on-Isolation-and-Quarantine-for-COVID-19-Contact-Tracing.aspx

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Persons Who Test Positive for COVID-19 (Isolation)	Recommended Action
Everyone, regardless of vaccination status, previous infection or lack of symptoms.	• **Stay home** (PDF) for at least 5 days. • Isolation can end after day 5 if symptoms are not present or are resolving **and** a diagnostic specimen* collected on day 5 or later tests negative. • If unable to test or choosing not to test, and symptoms are not present or are resolving, isolation can end after day 10. • If fever is present, isolation should be continued until fever resolves. • If symptoms, other than fever, are not resolving continue to isolate until symptoms are resolving or until after day 10. • Wear a well-fitting mask around others for a total of 10 days, especially in indoor settings (see Section below on masking for additional information) *Antigen test preferred.

Thank you once again for your flexibility and patience as we track and update our guidance in response to state and federal government public health requirements. If you have questions, please reach out to riskmanagement@starofca.com.

The Risk Management Team