



# Quality Assurance Bulletin

## Quality Assurance Division

County of Los Angeles – Department of Mental Health  
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June 28, 2019

No. 19-03

## CANS & PSC IMPLEMENTATION: UPDATE #1

This Bulletin is a follow-up to QA Bulletin 19-02: CANS & PSC Implementation and provides additional information related to the implementation of the Child and Adolescents Needs and Strengths (CANS) and Pediatric Symptom Checklist (PSC) within Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH).

### CLAIMING

LACDMH views the CANS-IP and PSC-35 as clinical tools that are to be incorporated into the clinical process. The CANS-IP and PSC-35 assist with the assessment process, facilitate the link between the mental health assessment and client treatment plan, and support the ongoing monitoring of client needs and strengths. As such, the time spent conducting CANS-IP and PSC-35 activities, including gathering information for and reviewing and completing the tools, should be claimed as a direct service. The claim submitted should be in accord with the purpose of the activity conducted: Mental Health Services (MHS) Assessment, MHS Plan Development, or Intensive Care Coordination. Similar to plan development activities, the time spent may also be incorporated into another service. Unless collaborative/concurrent documentation is utilized, entering the CANS-IP and PSC-35 into the clinical record should be recorded as “other” time for the direct service claim.

### Examples:

- Meet with client and family member to gather assessment information, complete the CANS as part of the initial assessment (CANS time included in 90791 claim; CANS type = Initial)
- Meet with client and caregiver for a family therapy session, review the CANS at the end of session and update information as appropriate (CANS time included in therapy claim; CANS type = Re-Assessment)
- Meet with client and caregiver to review and monitor the treatment plan, review the CANS and update as appropriate at the 6 month mark (CANS time is claimed H0032; CANS type = Re-Assessment)
- Update the CANS based on information gathered in a Child and Family Team (CFT) meeting (CANS time is claimed T1017HK; CANS type = Initial or Re-Assessment depending on when the CFT occurs)
- Meet with the client and family for a final therapy session, review and complete the CANS (CANS time included in therapy claim; CANS type = Discharge)

### CANS-IP TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION CODES

For information related to CANS-IP training, please go to: <https://dmh.lacounty.gov/for-providers/clinical-tools/training-workforce-development/cans/>.

*On-Line Trainings:* As of the date of this Bulletin, staff should no longer use the survey monkey to register for on-line trainings. On-line instructions and access can be found at the link identified above.

*Staff Trained by In-House Trainers:* In order to obtain the codes for participants to take the certification test free of cost, please follow the instructions below:

- Trainings occurring after January 1, 2019 and prior to June 21, 2019
  1. Submit a sign in sheet by July 5, 2019 with the name, email address and signature of the participant; the name and number of the provider; and the name and email address of the certified trainer to [support@tcomtraining.com](mailto:support@tcomtraining.com).  
*NOTE: The trainer must minimally be copied on the email to Praed.*
  2. Praed will send the codes to the trainer, to distribute to the participants, in order for the participants to take the certification test.

- Trainings occurring after June 21, 2019:
  1. Submit the standardized sign-in sheet (attached) for all participants that signed in, within 1-2 business days of the conclusion of the training to Praed at [support@tcomtraining.com](mailto:support@tcomtraining.com).  
*NOTE: The trainer must minimally be copied on the email to Praed.*
    - If you would like to receive the codes for the certification test prior to the conclusion of the training, submit the sign-in sheet as soon as all participants have signed into the training and Praed will make every effort to issue the codes prior to the end of the day.
  2. Praed will send the codes to the trainer, to distribute to the participants, in order for the participants to take the certification test.
  3. Participants must take the certification test within 30 days of the training, otherwise the code will expire.

For questions related to training that are not answered on the website indicated above, please contact [MHSAWET@dmh.lacounty.gov](mailto:MHSAWET@dmh.lacounty.gov)

If Legal Entities or Directly Operated providers have any questions related to this Bulletin, please contact the QA Division at [QualityAssurance@dmh.lacounty.gov](mailto:QualityAssurance@dmh.lacounty.gov).

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