

Alcohol and Drug Screening, Assessment, Brief Interventions and Referral to Treatment (SABIRT)

Medi-Cal providers are required to administer annual alcohol and drug screenings to patients 11 years of age and older, including pregnant women.

<p>Screen* your patients annually using an approved screening tool (e.g., NIDA, AUDIT-C, or DAST-10), and score the survey using the tool's scoring instructions.</p>	<p>Annual Alcohol Misuse Screen: For patients reporting alcohol use/misuse.</p>	<p>If patients reveal unhealthy alcohol use, brief misuse counseling should be offered. Appropriate referrals for additional evaluation and treatment, including medications for addiction treatment, must be offered to patients whose brief assessment demonstrates probable alcohol use disorder (AUD) or substance use disorder (SUD).</p> <p>Submit code H0050 (office visit add-on): Indicates alcohol and/or drug services, brief interventions were conducted.</p>	<p>Submit code G0442 (office visit add-on): Indicates annual alcohol misuse screening was conducted.</p>
	<p>Annual Drug Use Screen: For patients reporting drug use/misuse.</p>		<p>Submit code H0049 (office visit add-on): Indicates annual drug use screening was conducted.</p>

*Patients should be screened annually; however, additional screens must be provided when medically necessary.

Medical records

Must include the following:

- Service provided (e.g., screen and brief intervention)
- Name of screen or assessment instrument and score
- If and where a referral to an AUD or SUD program was made

These components must be present during medical records review.

What if the member needs something more?

Providers with the appropriate license and certification may provide Medications for Addiction Treatment (aka Medication-Assisted Treatment).

Providers can and should also refer patients to SUD treatment services in the county where they reside. For more information, contact the SUD Resource Center at (800) 879-2772.