



Dear Primary Care Medical Provider,

Effective January 1, 2021, Health First Colorado, (Colorado's Medicaid program) expanded the Substance Use Disorder (SUD) benefit. Residential and inpatient treatment and withdrawal management services have been added to the existing list of covered SUD services, giving members access to a full range of treatment options.

The Regional Accountable Entities (RAEs) will be responsible for administering the new services as part of Health First Colorado's capitated behavioral health benefit. If services are rendered to a member that could benefit from these services, contact the [RAEs](#) for additional information.

The SBIRT (Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral to Treatment) benefit is an important tool to identify which members may need SUD treatment and ensure they receive appropriate care. The [SBIRT Manual](#) includes more information about this benefit. [Peer Assistance Services](#) is contracted by Health First Colorado to provide free training on SBIRT to health care providers.

Visit the [Ensuring a Full Continuum of SUD Benefits web page](#) for more information about the benefit expansion.

Thank you,

Department of Health Care Policy & Financing

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