

Improve Your Access and Availability

No-cost webinars! Stay up to date on requirements and best practices

Learn about access and availability requirements. Get tips on how to meet performance goals.

Register to attend one of the webinars for insight on ways to improve member satisfaction and survey outcomes. Refer to the Access Standards included to ensure you meet requirements.



Webinar topics

- Overview of regulations on access and availability.
- Annual monitoring and reporting for the:
 - Provider Appointment Availability Survey.
 - Provider After-Hours Survey.
 - Timely Access Monitoring Survey.
- Resources to help meet your needs.



Presented by

Access and Availability Unit and Provider Network Operations.



Who should attend

- Physicians and other providers, office managers and provider office staff members.
- Participating physician group (PPG) provider network administrators and PPG provider relations staff



Dates, times and registration link

All webinar dates are in 2024.

- July 24 at noon, Pacific Time (PT)
- August 14 at 4 p.m. PT
- August 28 at noon PT
- October 2 at noon PT
- October 16 at noon PT
- October 30 at 4 p.m. PT
- November 13 at noon PT
- November 20 at 4 p.m. PT
- December 4 at noon PT
- December 18 at noon PT

Register today at: bit.ly/3VGD8bR

Questions?
Email the Access and Availability Team at Access.Availability.PNM@healthnet.com.

(continued)

Access Standards

Appointments	
Appointment type	Access standard
Urgent care	
Urgent care appointment with primary care physician (PCP).	Within 48 hours of request.
Urgent care appointment with specialist (prior approval needed).	Within 96 hours of request.
Non-urgent appointments	
Non-urgent care appointment with PCP.	Within 10 business days of request.
Non-urgent care appointment with specialist.	Within 15 business days of request.
Appointment for ancillary services.	Within 15 business days of request.
First prenatal visit ¹ .	Within two weeks of request.
Well-child visit ¹ .	Within two weeks of request.
Preventive/wellness check ¹ .	Within 30 business days of request.
Behavioral health appointments	
Urgent care appointment with non-physician behavioral health care provider or behavioral health care physician (psychiatrist) that does not require prior authorization.	Within 48 business hours of request.
Urgent care appointment with non-physician behavioral health care provider or behavioral health care physician (psychiatrist) that requires prior authorization.	Within 96 business hours of request.
Non-urgent care appointment with non-physician behavioral health care provider.	Within 10 business days of request.
Non-urgent appointment with behavioral health care physician (psychiatrist).	Within 15 business days of request.
Non-urgent care follow-up appointment with non-physician mental health care provider.	Within 10 business days of request.

¹ Health plan standard. Appointment scheduled through the provider for a preventive checkup will be dependent on the type of service, and a provider may recommend a different schedule depending on the need.

Access Standards

Appointments	
Appointment type	Access standard
After-hours	
After-hours physician availability.	Call back within 30 minutes of call.
After-hours emergency room instruction.	Appropriate emergency instructions.
Provider office phone	
The survey evaluates provider compliance with the phone access standards as set forth by DHCS.	
Answer member calls (can be live or recorded).	Within 60 seconds.
Return member calls for non-urgent issues.	Within one business day.
In-office wait time	
In-office wait time for scheduled appointments (PCP and specialists).	Not to exceed 30 minutes for Medi-Cal. Not to exceed 15 minutes for HMO, POS and PPO.

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