

## **Provider Alert**

## Client-Level COVID-19 Vaccine Status Data Files August 13, 2021

Target Audience: All Behavioral Health Providers

Providers should utilize the weekly updated client-level COVID-19 vaccine status data files on the Incedo Provider Portal (IPP) to support targeted outreach efforts to individuals who have not yet been vaccinated against COVID-19, with a focus on engaging unvaccinated individuals, providing individualized vaccine information, and reducing barriers to vaccine access.

Individuals who have mental illness or substance use disorders are especially vulnerable to infection and are at risk for complications and death from COVID-19 and its variants. Since behavioral health providers have trusted relationships with Public Behavioral Health System (PBHS) service recipients, behavioral health providers and their staff are uniquely positioned to intervene with any unvaccinated individuals in service with their agency or practice to increase vaccine confidence and to facilitate access to the COVID-19 vaccine.

BHA regularly monitors and tracks data on the number and percentage of individuals who are engaged in behavioral health services within the PBHS who have been either partially or fully vaccinated with the COVID-19 vaccine. In support of provider vaccine outreach and engagement efforts, weekly provider reports containing the vaccine status of the individuals engaged in behavioral health services at their agency will be uploaded into the Incedo Provider Portal for each provider to retrieve and to act on the data.

The weekly provider report will:

- Designate the vaccine status as partially vaccinated, fully vaccinated, or unvaccinated
- Contain contact information for each service recipient.
- Only give data to providers on individuals who are engaged in behavioral health services service within their agency or practice.

For information about hosting a vaccine clinic or becoming a vaccinator, please see our latest provider alert UPDATE: How to Increase COVID-19 Vaccination Acceptance Rates

https://maryland.optum.com/content/dam/ops-maryland/documents/provider/Alerts/july-2021/UPDATE\_How%20to%20Increase%20COVID-19%20Vaccination%20Acceptance%20Rates%20.pdf

For additional information, please consult the following resources:

- BHA COVID-19 response website: https://health.maryland.gov/bha/Pages/bha-covid-19.aspx
- ➤ CDC's Answering Patients' Questions About COVID-19 Vaccine and Vaccination:

https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/hcp/answering-questions.html

MDH's FAQs about COVID-19: covidLINK | Maryland Department of Health

Please email COVID-19 related questions to bha.inquiries@maryland.gov.