



<b>Health Care Agency Behavioral Health Services Policies and Procedures</b>	Section Name:	Care and Treatment
	Sub Section:	Miscellaneous
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	Policy Status:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Revised

	SIGNATURE	DATE APPROVED
Director of Operations Behavioral Health Services	<u>Signature on File</u>	<u>4/4/18</u>

**SUBJECT:** Youth Under the Influence Adolescent Substance Use Disorder Programs

**PURPOSE:**

To ensure compliance with all applicable Federal, State, and local laws and regulations pertaining to the operation of treatment programs in the Health Care Agency (HCA). This policy is not meant to exclude any and all other laws, statutes, and regulations pertinent to the operation of HCA Behavioral Health Services (BHS) and its Substance Use Disorder (SUD) treatment programs.

**POLICY:**

It is the policy of the County of Orange BHS and its SUD Programs to be in compliance with all federal, state, and local laws regarding the provision of adolescent and youth treatment and with the standards set forth in the State of California Youth Treatment Guidelines (2002). Adolescent SUD Programs are to adequately manage and/or make referral arrangements for youth that appear at the program site under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

**SCOPE:**

Health Care Agency Behavioral Health Services – Substance Use Disorder Services (SUD) Programs

**REFERENCES:**

[State of California Youth Treatment Guidelines \(2002\)](#)

**PROCEDURE:**

- I. HCA BHS Adolescent SUD Programs will train all program staff to assess for signs of substance intoxication in youth who present for and participate in services.
  - A. If a youth appears to be under the influence, staff are to triage as follows:
    - 1. Youth who appear to be in need of immediate medical attention are to be referred to the nearest Emergency Department. Staff are to call 911 to request a medical evaluation or arrange for a parent/legal guardian who is present at the program site to arrange for a medical evaluation. If a

parent/legal guardian is not present at the program site, staff will notify them of the emergency.

2. Youth who do not appear to be experiencing a medical emergency, but are presenting with diminished capacity to benefit from program services due to substance intoxication are to be rescheduled. Staff are to ensure that the youth has safe, secure, and reliable transportation back to their residence. Staff are to engage the parent/legal guardian in coordinating safe transportation.
- B. Staff may use the following measures to assist in triaging substance intoxication:
1. Administer a drug test.
  2. Verbal report of recent use or behaviors from youth or parent/legal guardian.
  3. Staff observations of youth's behavior.