

# Information Memorandum Transmittal Developmental Disabilities Services



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**Number: APD-IM-20-048**

**Issue date: 5/7/2020**

**Topic:** Developmental Disabilities

**Due date:**

**Subject:** Allowance of Elective Medical Procedures

**Applies to (check all that apply):**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All DHS employees                               | <input type="checkbox"/> County Mental Health Directors   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Area Agencies on Aging: {Select type}           | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aging and People with Disabilities              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS)                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Self Sufficiency Programs                       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ODDS Children's Intensive In Home Services                                  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County DD program managers           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stabilization and Crisis Unit (SACU)  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support Service Brokerage Directors  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): I/DD Provider Agencies and Personal Support Workers |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ODDS Children's Residential Services |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child Welfare Programs                          |   |

**Message:**

On or after May 1, 2020 Governor Brown has issued the allowance of elective and non-urgent medical procedures across all care settings in Executive Order [20-22](#). This reverses her original Executive Order 20-10, which limited elective and non-urgent procedures in order to conserve necessary Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

These are elective and non-urgent medical procedures which a person with I/DD does not have to schedule at this time. Although a Medical Professional or Hospital may reach out to schedule any procedures (including but not limited to dental cleanings, dental procedures, eye screenings, eye surgeries, or other medical surgeries) they do not have to occur at this time. Prior to agreeing to schedule an elective or non-urgent medical procedure there should be conversation with the individual around potential risks of exposure to COVID-19 at hospitals or other out-patient settings, as well as the risks of contracting COVID-19 for people with I/DD. There should also be discussion with the individual/guardian, residential provider, family or other ISP team member as appropriate regarding whether or not the medical procedure is truly necessary at this

time. For instance, if the person is in significant pain or has increased medical risk due to delaying a procedure that may be an appropriate reason to schedule an elective or non-urgent medical procedure. This conversation should help the individual make an informed choice about whether or not to schedule an elective or non-urgent medical procedure at this time.

It may also make sense to connect with the individual's Primary Care provider or other trusted medical professional to evaluate risk. In the event that an individual or their guardian chooses to go forward with a nonurgent or elective medical procedure at this time, there should be a plan for how to mitigate risk. For instance, it is recommended that the individual wear a mask when in the community, particularly at indoor locations such as a hospital or medical clinic. Additionally, the individual and anyone providing direct care should engage in frequent handwashing.

As Oregon prepares for further re-opening of the state, ODDS will continue to work with the Oregon Health Authority and the Governor's Office to ensure that we continue to maintain the health and safety of individuals with I/DD. At this time, please continue to follow all ODDS guidance and policies and encourage individuals with I/DD to remain at home to the greatest extent possible.

*If you have any questions about this information, contact:*

Contact(s): ODDS COVID-19 team	
Phone:	Fax:
Email: <a href="mailto:odds.questions@dhsoha.state.or.us">odds.questions@dhsoha.state.or.us</a>	