



## HEALTH SYSTEMS DIVISION

Kate Brown, Governor



500 Summer St NE E86

Salem, OR, 97301

Voice: 800-527-5772

Fax: 503-378-8467

TTY: 711

[www.oregon.gov/OHA/HSD](http://www.oregon.gov/OHA/HSD)

**Date:** March 25, 2020

**To:** Community Mental Health Programs  
Licensed Residential Treatment Providers  
HSD Mental Health Adult Foster Homes  
Behavioral Health Outpatient Providers

**From:** Dana Hittle, Deputy State Medicaid Director  
Health Systems Division

**Subject:** Comagine Health is Oregon's Behavioral Health Independent Qualified Agent effective July 1, 2020

Through a competitive contracting process, the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) has selected Comagine Health as the federally required Independent and Qualified Agent (IQA) for OHA's behavioral health program, effective July 1, 2020. As the IQA, Comagine Health's responsibilities will include but are not limited to fee-for-service behavioral health service prior authorizations, utilization review, 1915(i) Home and Community-Based Services State Plan Option eligibility determinations/redeterminations, functional needs assessments, and person-centered service planning.

Comagine Health replaces KEPRO Inc. as OHA's IQA. OHA, KEPRO and Comagine Health are collaborating on activities to close-out and smoothly transition work to Comagine Health. OHA and Comagine Health have also planned the following steps to support the transition of work and new contract activities:

- In April 2020, Comagine Health will join OHA-IQA meetings such as CMHP CHOICE meetings.
- Throughout April and May, OHA and Comagine Health will coordinate Comagine staff trainings.
- In April 2020, Comagine Health will release a statement to the public introducing their organization.
- In May 2020, Comagine Health will release additional communications detailing their role as well as policies and procedures.
- By June 2020, OHA will provide more details about how work will transfer from KEPRO to Comagine Health.

### Why is this happening?

The IQA contract with KEPRO expires June 30, 2020. OHA has contracted with Comagine Health as its new IQA to improve access to home- and community-based services and behavioral health services and supports. The new contract requires, in part, increased monitoring of individual health and welfare, transition planning and person-centered processes and outcomes.

### What should you do?

No action is required on your part at this time. Providers should continue directing individual fee-for-service behavioral health service authorizations to KEPRO until otherwise directed.

### Questions?

If you have any questions about this announcement, contact Alise Campbell, Contract Administrator [alise.v.campbell@dhsosha.state.or.us](mailto:alise.v.campbell@dhsosha.state.or.us) or 503-983-6080.

Thank you for your continued support of Oregon's behavioral health system and the services you provide.