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**To:** All Medi-Cal PCPs and IPAs  
**From:** IEHP – Provider Relations  
**Date:** February 02, 2023  
**Subject:** **UPDATE – Initial Health Appointment and Retirement of IHEBA/SHA**

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In late 2022, the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) released All Plan Letter (APL) 20-030 – “Initial Health Appointment.” APL 20-030 supersedes APL 13-017 and **announces the retirement of the IHEBA/SHAs from the Initial Health Assessment (IHA) effective January 1, 2023. The IHA is also now known as the “Initial Health Appointment.”**

### **What does this mean for Providers?**

The IHEBA/SHAs are eliminated from the IHA however, DHCS is preserving the following requirements of the IHA:

- The IHA must be completed within 120 days of enrollment for new members and must continue to include a history of the member’s present illness, past medical history, social & behavioral health history and review of organ systems (ROS) including dental assessment. The IHA must also include an identification of risks, an assessment of need for preventive screens or services and health education, and the diagnosis and plan for treatment of any diseases.
- For children aged 18 months and younger, IEHP requires an IHA be completed within 60 days of the effective date of enrollment. For children and youth (i.e., individuals under age 21), Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) screenings will continue to be covered in accordance with American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)/Bright Futures periodicity schedule, as referenced in APL 19-010.
- Providers continue to be responsible for providing all preventive screenings for adults and children as recommended by the United States Preventive Services Taskforce (USPSTF) but all of these elements will no longer be required to be completed during the initial appointment, so long as members receive all required screenings in a timely manner consistent with USPSTF guidelines.

IEHP will be updating Provider policies to reflect the retirement of the IHEBA/SHA and announcement of the updated policies is forthcoming.

**Please note:** IEHP’s Provider Portal will also be updated to reflect the IHA roster’s new title as “Initial Health Appointments.” Please remember to use this roster to ensure your IEHP members are seen by the required appointment due date. In the interim, refer to APL 20-030 for information regarding Provider requirements of the IHA: <https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/Pages/AllPlanLetters.aspx>

All communications sent by IEHP can also be found on our website at: [www.iehp.org](http://www.iehp.org) > Providers > Plan Updates > Correspondences. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the IEHP Provider Relations Team at (909) 890-2054 or (866) 223-4347 or email [ProviderServices@iehp.org](mailto:ProviderServices@iehp.org).