DSM-5 Diagnosis Implementation  
(DSM-IV Phase Out)

Effective October 1, 2015

Background
Effective on October 1st, 2015, the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) will no longer require the full 5 Axes diagnosis that was associated with the DSM IV format. As such, beginning on that date, the diagnosis screen will be updated to reflect this change to DSM-5/ICD10.

The Diagnosis entry screen will be the same except:
- Classification options will change
- The Tabs (Sections) will change where “Axis IV and V” will no longer appear

1. Classification Options
   
   Current options:

   - Mental Health: NOTE that a Mental Health program should have the primary diagnosis classified as a Mental Health diagnosis.
   - Substance Abuse: NOTE that a Substance Use Disorder program should have the primary diagnosis classified as a Substance Abuse diagnosis.
   - Environmental: This classification replaces Psychosocial and Environmental Problems that used to get listed under Axis IV.
   - Medical: Use of this classification is OPTIONAL. Mental Health programs are still required to complete the General Medical Condition located on the CSI Admission Screen.

   NEW options:
Example
For a Mental Health Program, the Primary Diagnosis should be classified as a Mental Health diagnosis

2. Tab (Section) changes
Only the sections labeled “Diagnosis” and “Additional Diagnosis Information” will appear. The section called “Diagnosis (Axis IV and V)” will no longer appear.

Information that was previously entered under Axis IV can be classified as “Environmental” on the main Diagnosis Page.

Axis V: Global Assessment of Functioning (GAF) is no longer required

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- [http://www.vimeo.com/avatarhelpdesk](http://www.vimeo.com/avatarhelpdesk) (link to training videos)
- If you need assistance with accessing the Avatar form or support documentation, please contact the Avatar Help Desk at 415-255-3788 or via e-mail at avatarhelp@sfdph.org
- If you have questions about CBHS policies, contact your System of Care Coordinator.