Access to Sexual + Reproductive Health Services During COVID-19

New federal and state policies have been implemented to support access to sexual and reproductive health services during the COVID-19 public health emergency. The chart below provides an overview of policy changes adopted and resources available to help you stay informed and up-to-date.

### FAMILY PLANNING CARE

- **Patients enrolled in Medi-Cal + Family PACT may now:**
  - Access birth control + STD services provided remotely through telehealth (video/telephonic visits)
  - Receive birth control care without utilization limits
  - Self-administer Depo-Provera (the birth control shot) and pick up prescriptions at a local pharmacy

### REMOTE ENROLLMENT

- **Individuals who may be eligible for publicly supported family planning + related health services may now:**
  - Call a Family PACT provider to enroll in the program and re-certify eligibility by phone
  - Apply for Medi-Cal Minor Consent by phone
  - Maintain Medi-Cal coverage without worrying about program renewal during the public health emergency

### TELEHEALTH SERVICES

- **Policy changes to support the delivery of family planning + related health care through telehealth services include:**
  - Providers can conduct telehealth visits by phone or through applications like FaceTime, GoogleChat, Skype, etc.
  - Patient consent can be secured remotely and if that is not possible, consent requirements are waived at this time
  - Providers will receive payment parity for services delivered in person and remotely through telehealth modalities like telephone or video

### TELEHEALTH ESSENTIALS

- **The COVID-19 public health crisis has fast-tracked significant transformations in our health care delivery system, including a necessary shift toward providing time-sensitive services through telehealth.**

  Essential Access Health launched an online resource hub to support access to quality family planning and related services through telehealth modalities at: essentialaccess.org/telehealth-essentials

Join us to help make these changes and flexibilities permanent in California and beyond. Sign-up to receive regular updates and action alerts. Contact us if you have any questions.