

Date: January 19, 2018
CYF Memo: #06-17/18
To: Prescribers
From: Laura Vleugels, MD
Supervising Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist
Re: **JV-220 Updates: New California Rules of Court and Judicial Council Forms**

Based upon feedback received, the Judicial Council of California amended the JV-220 and related forms effective January 1, 2018. Only minor modifications (summarized below) were made on the forms completed by the prescriber (JV-220A, JV-220B). **Only JV-220 applications completed on the NEW FORMS will be accepted by our local Juvenile Court after MARCH 1, 2018.** Forms may be accessed on the California Courts website, (<http://www.courts.ca.gov/formnumber.htm>)

JV-220A: Question #3 now requires the prescriber to describe the emergency circumstances for application made on an emergent basis. The criteria for emergency treatment are included below for reference.

JV-220B: Question #9 requires DSM-5 diagnoses
Question #13 mandates that information be attached detailing significant side effects, warnings/contraindications, drug interactions, etc. This question also requires documentation that the caregiver was informed and his/her response.

Forms must still be FAXED to the youth's PSW/Probation Officer. There is no electronic submission process available at this time.

As in the past, it is expected that prescribers have court authorization (signed JV-220) prior to initiating psychotropic medication. Court authorization lasts for a total of 6 months, at which time another JV-220 form must be submitted. There remains an exception for emergency treatment. As defined by the law, **emergency treatment** is when:

- A physician finds that the child requires psychotropic medication to treat a psychiatric disorder or illness; and
 - The purpose of the medication is:
 - To protect the life of the child or others, or
 - To prevent serious harm to the child or others, or
 - To treat current or imminent substantial suffering; and
- It is impractical to obtain authorization from the court before administering the psychotropic medication to the child
- Court authorization must be sought as soon as practical but in no case more than two court days after the emergency administration of the psychotropic medication.

Vista Hill Juvenile Court Clinic is also available for non-binding second opinions for prescribers treating youth who have complicated diagnostic issues or complex medication regimens. Any County prescriber may access this service at no cost and will receive a consultation note from the Vista Hill clinician. Vista Hill Juvenile Court Clinic is located adjacent to the Juvenile Court at 2851 Meadow Lark Dr., San Diego, CA 92123. Their telephone number is 858-571-1964.

Thank you for helping to care for Child Welfare and Probation involved youth. The County of San Diego recognizes that changes in the process will be an adjustment for prescribers in our community. If you have questions or concerns, I am available, laura.vleugels@sdcounty.ca.gov, or can facilitate communication with the Judicial Council.