The California Department of Health Care Services and the Office of the California Surgeon General launched ACEs Aware – a first-in-the-nation, statewide effort to screen for Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and to treat the impact of toxic stress.

ACEs Aware offers Medi-Cal providers training, clinical protocols, and payment for screening children and adults for ACEs. This fact sheet provides information on providers who have completed the free "Becoming ACEs Aware in California" online training and their evaluation of the training.

For additional information, see the full report on ACEsAware.org.

Who has completed the training?

15,500 Individuals have completed the training
9,100 Medi-Cal providers have attested*

*Medi-Cal providers must attest to completing a certified ACEs Aware core training to qualify for Medi-Cal payment.

Provider Type
55% Physicians
Nurse Professionals (12%)
Social Worker (8%)
Psychologist (6%)

Provider Specialty
47% Pediatrics or Family Medicine
Behavioral Health (17%)
Internal Medicine (9%)
Obstetrics/Gynecology (8%)

How effective was the training?

Before the Training
35% of participants were not screening for ACEs at all.
63% of participants were screening less than one-quarter of their patients for ACEs.
7% of participants were screening all of their patients for ACEs.

After the Training
81% of participants who were not previously screening patients for ACEs indicated that they planned to implement routine ACE screening for children or adults.
97% of participants plan to implement changes in their practice or already reinforced their current practice.

91% of participants reported being somewhat or very confident that they would be able to make the intended changes.

Top Types of Intended Practice Change
Routine screening for ACEs in children 54%
Routine screening for ACEs in adults 52%
Applying a clinical algorithm about ACEs and toxic stress to guide patient care 43%

Data from December 4, 2019, to December 31, 2020.

Visit ACEsAware.org