

Prenatal Diagnostic Services Policy

- I. **Purpose:** It is the intent of San Andreas Regional Center to provide education and access to prenatal diagnostic services or genetic services, in compliance with all state and federal laws, regulations, and court decisions.
- II. **Definitions:**
 - **Consumer, individual, and person served are used interchangeably in regional center policy and the Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act and mean a person who has been found eligible and receives services from the regional center.**
 - *Prenatal diagnostic services* are services used prior to the birth of an infant to detect a condition that may lead to a developmental disability. Such services may include Amniocentesis, sonogram, karyotyping, biochemical determination, and other accepted diagnostic tools.
 - *Genetic services* include medical testing and counseling to detect risk factors that may lead to a diagnosis of a developmental disability. They are usually provided at genetic centers, perinatal centers, county health departments, and private or specialty clinics.
- III. **Policy:** It is the policy of San Andreas Regional Center to inform families at potential risk to pursue all available information regarding causes and prevention of developmental disabilities. This may include referral to existing resources and collaboration with health education agencies.
- IV. **Purchase of Service Standard:** Any family believed to have a high risk of parenting a developmentally disabled infant and wishing to explore prenatal diagnostic and genetic screening services shall be informed to use generic agencies. All generic, private, and public agencies receiving public funds for providing prenatal and genetic services have a legal responsibility to serve all members of the general public.
- V. **Exception Process:** The executive director has full discretion to authorize purchases of service which are exceptions to the board-adopted purchase of service policies and standards. The Executive Director has designated that the Director and Associate Directors of Consumer Services are authorized to grant an exception in the executive director's stead; these individuals are referred to as director's designees.

- VI. **Notice of Action:** If the exception is not granted, the service coordinator promptly informs the individual/family that it has not been granted, informs the individual/family of their appeal rights, and sends a notice of action and a fair hearing form.

If a decision is made to deny, reduce, or cancel the service without the agreement of the consumer or the individual's representative, a Notice of Action will be sent.

DDS Approved: August 25, 2023

Board Adopted: October 16, 2023