



Employee Health Systems Medical Group

77 Cadillac Drive, Suite 180, Sacramento, CA 95825

www.ehsmd.com • www.californiamedicalchanges.com

Specialty Access: New Strategies, Efforts and Timelines to Improve Access and Expand Networks

EHS Medical Group - Sacramento

- Over 500 contracted specialists in Sacramento and surrounding counties.

- Continued recruitment in process, hiring additional staff in Sacramento

- Access to LOA's:
 - o UCD - numerous specialties, contingent on capacity
 - o Sutter - limited specialties
 - o Dignity - for COC cases only



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- Contracting in process with Sutter Medical Foundation for limited, specific specialties
- E-Consult program through Synermed:
 - o Allows PCPs to consult with specialist and get advice on patient treatment plans.
 - o Turnaround is sooner than face to face specialty office consults
 - o Delivers access to specialty care for patients in rural and metro areas
 - o E-Consult offers access to 18 specialties
 - o Digital cameras provided to PCP for dermatology cases
 - o PCPs learn how to expand the scope of their practice through education and mentoring
- Bring in specialists from LA region where EHS network is robust - still under discussion.



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- Timelines: 2015 and Ongoing

- Challenges:
 - o Limited physician supply in Sacramento
 - o Majority belong to hospital medical groups
 - o Private practice physicians have trouble hiring new MDs and mid-levels - competing with hospital groups and other medical groups
 - o Certain specialists hard to come by regardless of region or group, Rheumatology, etc.
 - o Certain pediatric and adult tertiary specialties only available in bay area
 - o LOA process locally is resource intensive and more costly
 - o Dignity/ Anthem hospital termination - impacts specialty access