

**PLACEMENT  
COORDINATING  
MEMORANDUM**

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Original Date: April 28, 2004	
Revised Date:	
Approved: <u>Dave Leone</u> Dave Leone, Director Central/Regional Placement	

**PHONE THERAPY**

Reports of family therapy being done over the telephone are becoming more frequent. While this may be necessary once in a while for some placements located a great distance from Central Los Angeles, phone therapy may not be used except occasionally in extreme situations.

Phone therapy does not count as family therapy toward reunification or for home passes. It may be necessary once or twice in the beginning to get parents comfortable enough with the process so they are willing to go to the facility for sessions.

When parents have trouble driving long distances, they should be encouraged to find ways to visit the placement. If families can only visit placements on the weekend, The Group Home should arrange to provide family counseling then.

There is nothing in either the County Contract or Title 22 allowing for phone therapy. The DPO of Record must approve all Phone Therapy prior to its being used by the Group Home.

If you have any questions about this memo, please call the Central Placement Consultant Unit SDPO at (323) 226-8569.