

August 20, 2010

AHCCCS Benefit Changes Effective October 1, 2010

In response to significant fiscal challenges facing the State and continuing growth in the Medicaid population, effective October 1, 2010, AHCCCS will implement several changes to the adult benefit package.

POPULATION

The changes to the benefit package impact all adults 21 years of age and older, unless otherwise specified. This population includes both Acute Care AHCCCS members as well as members in the Arizona Long Term Care System (ALTCs). At this time, these changes also apply to American Indians regardless of whether they receive services through managed care or fee for service.

For AHCCCS eligible individuals with incomes at or below 100 % of the federal poverty level (FPL) who are also Medicare eligible as a Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (also known as QMB Dual Members), AHCCCS will continue to pay the applicable cost sharing (deductibles, co-pays, and coinsurance) for Medicare covered services that are no longer covered by AHCCCS. For AHCCCS members with incomes greater than 100% FPL who are also Medicare eligible (known as non-QMB Dual Members), AHCCCS will not pay cost sharing for Medicare covered services that are no longer covered by AHCCCS. Managed care members and providers are encouraged to contact the member's Health Plan/ Program Contractor to determine the circumstances under which Medicare cost sharing applies.

AHCCCS eligible members who are under the age of 21 years old will continue to receive the full benefit package available under the Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) Program.

Complete information regarding benefit changes can be found at http://www.azahcccs.gov/reporting/Downloads/Legislation/2010seventh/BenefitChanges_10-1-10.pdf and <http://www.azahcccs.gov/reporting/legislation/sessions/2010/BenefitChanges.aspx>. We urge you and your staff to review the documentation on the AHCCCS website very closely. Our Provider Network Operations team is available for assistance and you may call us at any time.

AHCCCS also has a specific e-mail address for questions regarding the benefit changes LegislativeBenefitChange@azahcccs.gov. Questions will be collected and answered timely and thoroughly.

Thank you!