

AHCCCS RESTORES COVERAGE OF TRANSPLANTS FOR ADULTS

April 19, 2011

Dear Care1st Providers and Office Staff:

As part of the recently enacted budget, the Arizona Legislature adopted Governor Brewer's Medicaid Reform Plan which restores funding of previously covered transplants for adults that were eliminated effective October 1, 2010. Retroactive to **April 1, 2011**, AHCCCS will once again cover the following transplants for members 21 years of age and older:

- Pancreas Transplants after a Kidney Transplant
- Liver Transplants for Members with Hepatitis C
- Allogeneic Unrelated Hematopoietic Cell Transplants
- Heart Transplants for Non-ischemic Cardiomyopathies
- Lung Transplants
- Heart Lung Transplants

Transplants that were not covered by AHCCCS prior to October 1, 2010, including pancreas only transplants, partial pancreas transplants and pancreas islet cell transplants, are not affected by this legislation. Those transplants remain non-covered. In addition to the medically necessary transplants covered for adults, AHCCCS continues to cover *all* medically necessary, non experimental transplants for members under the age of 21 years as required by EPSDT.

Coverage criteria for restored transplants will be the same as the criteria in place prior to October 1, 2010. Physicians with Care1st patients they believe meet the criteria for any AHCCCS covered transplant should contact Care1st to refer the patient for transplant evaluation.

Please contact Provider Network Operations at the numbers below if you have any questions or visit the AHCCCS website at:

<http://www.azahcccs.gov/reporting/legislation/sessions/2010/BenefitChanges.aspx#transplantRestoration> .

Thank you!

Provider Network Operations
Phone 602.778.1800 or 866.560.4042 (Options in order: 5, 7)
Fax 602.778.1875

Visit our website at www.care1st.com/az