



September 17, 2015

**To: Care1st Primary Care Physicians and Staff**

**Re: AHCCCS General Mental Health and Substance Abuse for Dual Eligible Members**

**Change:**

Effective October 1, 2015, AHCCCS Acute contractors such as Care1st take over responsibility for coordinating care and acting as the secondary insurance for *general mental health and substance abuse services* for Medicaid members that also qualify for Medicare, i.e. dual eligibles.

Prior to October 1, *general mental health and substance abuse services* for dual eligibles are the responsibility of the Regional Behavioral Health Authority (RBHA), i.e. Mercy Maricopa in Maricopa County, Community Partnership of Southern Arizona (CPSA) in Pima County, or one of the Tribal Authorities.

**Remains the Same:**

- The dual eligible member's Medicare plan will continue to pay for the majority of general mental health and substance abuse services.
- The Acute AHCCCS contractors, e.g. Care1st, as the secondary insurance, will pay for co-payments, Medicare deductibles and some services not covered by Medicare.

**Member ID Card Change:**

Dual eligible members will receive a new ID card from Care1st by 10/7/15. The new card will list Care1st's phone number for the member to call if they have behavioral health questions.

**Behavioral Health Services:**

- For those dual eligible members currently receiving mental health or substance abuse services, Care1st will work with their mental health provider(s) to contract with Care1st.
- Behavioral health providers will bill Care1st as the secondary insurance for dates of service 10/1/15 and after.

**Behavioral Health Coordinator Contact Information:**

- The Care1st Medicare Behavioral Health Coordinator is here to help if you have questions regarding mental health and substance abuse services, behavioral health referrals, or coordination of care for your dual eligible members.
- The phone number for the Medicare Behavioral Health Coordinator is 602.778.1800 or 866.560.4042 (Choose Option 5 followed by 1; and dial extension 1834 when asked).
- You may also provide this phone number to your dual eligible Care1st members if they have questions about behavioral health services or if they would like assistance with a referral. (Members should choose option 4 followed by 1; and then dial extension 1834 when asked.)