

**AHCCCS NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION
INTENT TO SUBMIT A STATE PLAN AMENDMENT (SPA)**

Name of the Agency: Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS)

The topic of the public information notice: Inform the public of AHCCCS intent to submit a State Plan Amendment.

SPA Title: Adult Speech Therapy & Cochlear Implants

SPA Overview: This SPA adds speech therapy in an outpatient setting and cochlear implants as covered services to individuals who are at least 21 years of age.

Tribal Consultation:

AHCCCS consulted with Tribes regarding this SPA via a Tribal Leader Letter.

State Plan Amendment and Public Comment Period

The proposed SPA is located on the next page of this document.

Public notice was posted on August 28, 2025.

Comments will be accepted through September 29, 2025.

Comments can be submitted through email or postal mail. The addresses where comments may be sent are provided below.

- Email:
publicinput@azahcccs.gov
- Postal Mail:
AHCCCS
Attn: Division of Community Advocacy and Intergovernmental Relations
150 N. 18th Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85007

11c. Services for individuals with speech, hearing, and language disorders (provided by or under the supervision of a speech pathologist or audiologist).

Speech Pathology services are provided to diagnose, evaluate, and provide treatment for specific speech, language and hearing disorders. ~~Services for adults~~Adults over the age of ~~21~~ ~~1~~ are ~~limited to~~provided with ~~speech therapy services provided~~in an inpatient ~~and/or~~ ~~outpatient~~ setting. ~~_____~~Members enrolled in the ALTCS program receive services provided under the 1115 Waiver. Assessment, evaluation, and treatment services are included as part of this benefit. Providers meet the applicable requirements at 42 CPR 440.110.

Speech pathology services are provided by: 1) State-licensed speech-language pathologists; and 2) licensed speech-language pathologist assistants under the direction of State-licensed speech-language pathologists. In addition, persons who have a Provisional Speech and Language Impaired Certificate must be supervised by an American Speech and Language Hearing Association-certified pathologist. All providers of speech pathology services meet the requirements of 42 CPR 440.110

Audiology

Audiology services are provided to evaluate hearing loss and rehabilitate persons who may or may not be improved by medication or surgical treatment. Members enrolled in the ALTCS program receive services provided under the 1115 Waiver.

Audiological services are provided by Audiologists licensed with the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) and meet the requirements in 42 CPR 440.110.

TN No. ~~11~~
~~00625-0012~~
Supersedes
TN No.
~~NIA~~11-006

Approval Date: _____

Effective Date: ~~April 1,~~
~~2011~~September 26, 2025

12. Prescribed drugs, dentures, and prosthetic devices; and eyeglasses prescribed by a physician skilled in diseases of the eye or by an optometrist.

12a. Prescribed drugs.

Medicare Part D drugs are not covered for full benefit dual eligible members, as coverage is provided through Medicare Part D PDPs and MAPDs

Prescription drugs for covered transplantation services shall be provided in accordance with AHCCCS transplantation policies.

AHCCCS only covers over-the-counter medications in place of a covered prescription medication that is clinically appropriate, equally safe and effective, and less costly than the covered prescription medication.

In compliance with Section 1927(b) of the Social Security Act (the Act), the State collects drug rebates in accordance with established policy for drug rebate agreements as provided in Exhibit 12(a) to Attachment 3.1-A.

CMS has authorized the state of Arizona to enter into Outcomes-Based contract arrangements with drug manufacturers for drugs provided to Medicaid beneficiaries. These contracts will be executed on the contract template titled "Outcomes-Based Supplemental Rebate Agreement" submitted to CMS and authorized for use beginning July 1, 2019.

12c. Prosthetic devices.

Prosthetic devices are limited to devices prescribed by a physician or other licensed practitioner to artificially replace missing, deformed or malfunctioning portions of the body and which are medically necessary to the rehabilitation of the member.

Covered prosthetic devices for members age 21 and older include cochlear implants, but do not include hearing aids, ~~cochlear implants~~, bone anchored hearing aids, percussive vests, microprocessors for controlled joints for the lower limbs in addition to microprocessor-controlled joints for the lower limbs, penile implants, and vacuum devices.

Orthotic devices, which are defined as devices that are prescribed by a physician or other licensed practitioner of the healing arts to support a weak or deformed portion of the body, are covered when the use of the orthotic is medically necessary as the preferred treatment option consistent with Medicare guidelines and the orthotic is less expensive than all other treatment options or surgical procedures to treat the same diagnosed condition.

12d. Eyeglasses.

Eye examinations for prescriptive lenses and the provision of prescriptive lenses under EPSDT services.

Adult services are limited to eyeglasses and contact lenses as the sole prosthetic device after a cataract extraction.

13. Other diagnostic, screening, preventive, and rehabilitative services, i.e., other than those provided elsewhere in the plan.

13a. Diagnostic Services.

Genetic testing is not covered unless the results of the genetic tests are necessary to differentiate between treatment options. Genetic testing is not covered to determine specific diagnoses or syndromes when such determination would not definitively alter the medical treatment of the member.

TN No. ~~19-00425-0012~~

Supersedes

Approval Date: ~~April 28, 2020~~

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~~26, 2025~~

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