ET3 Update

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What is ET3?

• Emergency Triage, Treat, and Transport (also known as ET3) is a payment model designed to reduce unnecessary transport to emergency departments

• ET3 seeks to remedy the challenges currently faced by EMS providers by providing greater flexibility to ambulance care teams following a 911 call

• AHCCCS ET3 will be effective 10/1/21, subject to CMS approval
ET3 Components

1. **Transport of Member to Alternate Destination** (e.g. urgent care center, BH provider, or PCP’s office)

2. **Treatment in Place/Triage by Qualified Health Care Practitioner** (e.g. medical triage of member via telehealth, with EMS personnel assisting as needed)

3. **Treatment in Place by a Qualified Health Care Practitioner In Person** (e.g. EMS personnel provide treatment at member’s existing location, using standing orders)
ET3 Goals

● **Increasing efficiency in EMS system** to more readily respond to/focus on high-acuity cases, e.g. heart attacks and strokes, by reducing unnecessary transports to Emergency Rooms;

● **Increasing Quality of Care** by:
  ○ **Providing person-centered care** to deliver appropriate level of care safely at right time/place, while giving members greater control of healthcare through availability of more options;
  ○ **Encouraging appropriate utilization of services** to meet health care needs effectively;
  ○ **Reducing unnecessary costs**
Who Can Participate in AHCCCS ET3?

- Any AHCCCS Registered Emergency Transportation Provider (*Provider Type 06*) has the opportunity to participate in ET3
  - Provider type 06 includes Tribal EMS providers

- Providers will participate by in ET3 by:
  - Adhering to AHCCCS ET3 Policy
  - Billing appropriate codes with proper modifier
How Does ET3 Impact Members?

- Members have greater control of their healthcare through availability of more options
- Members who do not need an ED level of care currently endure long wait times due to being triaged as a lower priority
  - Alternative destinations should result in shorter wait times prior to members receiving care
  - Reducing unnecessary utilization of EDs should result in shorter wait times for persons needing ED level of care
- Members have greater continuity of care and coordination of care by using their PCP or specialists as opposed to the ED
How Does ET3 Impact Providers?

• Increased efficiency in the EMS system, by:
  o Allowing EMS providers to provide treatment in place (when clinically appropriate) and reducing unnecessary transports;
  o Allowing EMS providers to transport members to alternate destinations when a different level of care is appropriate, reducing member/provider wait times in EDs;
  o Freeing up EDs for patients who require that level of care;
  o Helping EMS entities establish triage line for low-acuity 911 calls; and
  o Getting ambulances back in service more quickly, to more readily respond to and focus on high-acuity cases

• Permits reimbursement for triage, treat, and/or transport to an alternative site

• Easy for AHCCCS-registered emergency transport providers to participate
ET3 Resources

AHCCCS ET3 Updates Page
• [https://www.azahcccs.gov/AHCCCS/Initiatives/ET3/](https://www.azahcccs.gov/AHCCCS/Initiatives/ET3/)

Fee-for Service Provider Billing Manual
• [Transportation Chapter](#)
  • ET3 Updates Coming Soon

AHCCCS Medical Policy Manual (AMPM)
• [AMPM 310-BB, Transportation](#)
  • ET3 Updates Coming Soon