

Comments to Centene-WellCare merger

1 message

Sharon Reynolds <sreynolds@wellness-connections.org> Reply-To: sreynolds@wellness-connections.org To: Centene-WellCareMerger@azahcccs.gov Thu, Aug 22, 2019 at 1:52 PM

We are a provider in the GSA South region and I am concerned about the disruptions primarily to providers during this merger. Arizona Complete Health, a subsidiary of Centene, has struggled for almost a year now in their efforts to consolidate the Cenpatico and Healthnet networks and there is still no resolution in sight. We have seen specifically, payment delays, denial of payments due to incorrect enrollments of members and providers, incorrect payments to providers, and duplicate payments to providers. While WellCare is not merging directly with Arizona Complete Health, the current CareFirst AZ members in the Central GSA region would be transitioned to Arizona Complete Health as part of this merger. I think that the current provider disruptions at Arizona Complete Health are reflective of poor organizational oversight and management by Centene. I would like to see a complete resolution of the current provider issues with Arizona Complete Health before another merger is started that will involve them.

The other issue that I have with this potential merger, is that it will allow Centene to be a much bigger player in the Arizona market than it currently is. I think competition is beneficial in the healthcare market in general and the reduced competition that this merger would create will result in increased costs for AHCCCS in the future.



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