



## Frequently Asked Questions for People Enrolled in Medicare and AHCCCS: Changes to Your Behavioral Health Benefits October 1, 2015

If you are enrolled in both Medicare and AHCCCS and you have not been determined to have a serious mental illness, you will be able to access all of your benefits through your AHCCCS health plan. This includes behavioral health benefits. Beginning on October 1, 2015, you will no longer call the Regional Behavioral Health Authority (RBHA) to access behavioral health services. You can just call your AHCCCS health plan. You can choose your AHCCCS health plan for Medicare too. This allows you to access all of your benefits in one health plan.

**Q:** I receive Medicare Part A, and I have AHCCCS. Does this change apply to me?

**A:** Yes, anyone with Medicare (Part A and/or Part B) and AHCCCS will be included. This change does not include individuals who are solely receiving Medicare. This change does not include individuals who have been determined to have a serious mental illness (SMI).

**Q:** Why is AHCCCS making this change?

**A:** AHCCCS is making this change so that you can contact your AHCCCS health plan for physical health, behavioral health, and for aligned members – Medicare as well. You may even get a single membership card. You always have a choice of which Medicare plan to join.

**Q:** How do I get help for behavioral health or substance abuse needs if I:

- Have Medicare and Medicaid (AHCCCS) And
- Am over 18 years old?

**A:** Call your AHCCCS plan. They will work with Medicare to get you the help you need.

**Q:** What if I have been determined to be a person who has been diagnosed with a serious mental illness (SMI) and I need to see my doctor or get help for a mental health care condition?

**A:** Nothing changes for you. You will still call your RBHA (either Mercy Maricopa, Health Choice Integrated Care, or Cenpatico Integrated Care) for referrals to providers that serve physical and behavioral health needs.

**Q:** What if I am under 18 years old?

**A:** Nothing will change for you in October. You will still contact the RBHA for any behavioral health needs.

**Q:** Will I still be able to see the provider I see now?

**A:** Yes, every effort will be made to ensure that you will be able to keep seeing the same providers for behavioral health services. Medical health service providers will not change.

**Q:** I don't have Medicare. Will this change affect me?

**A:** No, if you are not yet enrolled in Medicare, everything will stay the way it is today.

**Q:** I am an American Indian. Will this change affect me?

**A:** If you are an American Indian who is enrolled in an AHCCCS plan (other than the American Indian Health Program), you will have your behavioral health benefits coordinated by your AHCCCS plan. If you are enrolled in the American Indian Health Program, nothing will change for you. As always, American Indians can access services at IHS and tribally owned and/or operated 638 facilities at any time.